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A COMBINED VIEW
OF THE
PROPHECIES
OF
Daniel, Esdras, and St. John,

SHEWING THAT ALL THE PROPHETIC WRITINGS ARE
FORMED UPON ONE PLAN.

ACCOMPANIED BY AN EXPLANATORY CHART.

ALSO, A MINUTE EXPLANATION
OF THE
PROPHECIES OF DANIEL;

Together with Critical Remarks upon the Interpretations of preceding
Commentators, and more particularly upon the Systems of

MR. FABER AND MR. CUNINGHAME.

BY JAMES HATLEY FRERE, Esq.

THE SECOND EDITION.

“ And the sixth Angel poured out his Vial upon the Great River
“ Euphrates.”——“ Behold I come as a thief. BLESSED IS HE THAT
“ WATCHETH.”—Rev. xvi. 12, 15.

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PREFACE.

THE subject of Prophecy is calculated to interest every one, for there is no individual in these times who may not believe himself to be personally concerned in the things of which it treats; and if the history of past ages is worthy of our attention, much more so is the history of ages to come. The Author of the following pages has for above seventeen years been increasingly impressed with a sense of the importance of the period in which we live, and has always entertained a

few ideas upon the prophecies, which relate to it, peculiar to himself; but it was not till the month of April, 1813, that he was induced to commit any thing on the subject to writing; when an accidental circumstance led him to controvert the opinion to be found in the systems of Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, that *Infidel France* would prosper to the end. He has still by him a copy of his letter of that date; in which, in reply to an opinion that France would acquire “ a fresh accession of power on the Continent, that she might lead the nations to the battle of Armageddon,” he observed, that he should think it more probable, “ *that France would not recover from her*” (then) “ *present state;*” and added also that “ *the French Empire could not be of any, very long duration:*” opinions founded upon certain passages in Prophecy, which the wonderful events that

have lately taken place have since so abundantly verified.

In the month of October following, he again resumed the subject, having at that time nothing further in view than to recommend some particular parts of Prophecy to the attention of Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame. While, however, the subject was before him, every day appeared to bring with it some novel and important discovery ; till, in a few months, or rather in a few weeks, the system now offered to the public was completed.

The principal novelty in this work is the introduction of the rule, that in any interpretation given of the prophetic writings, *an unity of plan* should be shewn to pervade them all. By the adoption of this rule, in addition to those already established by former Commentators, Prophecy will be admitted to be, what it undoubtedly is in reality, a perfect system ;

and the great opprobrium of the subject, which is its uncertainty, we may hope will be in a considerable degree removed; for the stricter the rules are by which a Commentator is confined, the greater must be the difficulty of giving any false interpretation that shall wear the appearance of truth.

This work was put to the press so early as the month of March, 1814; but, notwithstanding this, an apprehension that the Author had expressed, *that it would not be published, before Buonaparte would leave France and go to Italy*, was realized; and he has consequently had to speak of that, as a past event, which he *had designed* to speak of as one that would undoubtedly be shortly * accomplished. His

* *That is, some time within three or four years.* The expectation (verbally expressed) that Buonaparte would go to Italy *so speedily as within a few months*, was derived not so much from prophecy, as from the situation in which he was placed when the first pages of this work were printing—circumstances now appear to point out, that the passing over to Italy is yet to be accomplished.—2d Edit.

leisure since has been sufficient to enable him to do little more than to superintend the progress of the work through the press ; and to add to it the remarks upon the interpretations of other Commentators : this he trusts will be an apology for its numerous defects.

He hopes at some future time to complete his plan, by adding to the minute interpretation of the Prophecies of Daniel, a similar minute interpretation of the Prophecies of Esdras and Saint John. In the mean time, the Prophetic Chart and the Symbolical Dictionary, will, with a reference to history, enable the Reader to ascertain the interpretations which will hereafter be given of any part of these writings.

It may be well to state, that the following pages ought to be read with a continual reference to the Explanatory Chart, and to the several passages of the Bible that are the subjects of discussion.

POSTSCRIPT.

The second edition of this work is nearly a reprint of the first; except that a few observations are made (see pages 106—112, 477, 478) upon the present state of France, and the individual who is now at the head of the French nation.

London, 8th May, 1815.

CONTENTS.

CHAP. I.

Introductory Observations.—General Rules of Interpretation.—Arrangement of the Prophecies.—Symbolical Dictionary.

- I. SYSTEMS of commentators on prophecy not sufficiently simple and comprehensive. p. 1.
- II. Two principal rules of interpretation laid down. p. 5.
 1. Four minor rules added. p. 6.
 2. The advantages of the two primary rules. p. 7.
- III. The general plan and arrangement of the prophecies adopted in this work, stated. p. 8.
- IV. The prophecy of the Great Image of Daniel proved to relate to the temporal history of the world, and the vision of the Four Beasts to the history of the Church. p. 10.
 1. Their general contents point this out, and particularly the different terms in which the period of the Millennium is described in each prophecy. p. 10.
- V. The Sealed Book of Saint John proved in like manner to relate to the temporal history of the Roman Empire, the Little Opened Book to the history of the Church, p. 11.

1. Because the Sealed Book contains nothing relative to the Church, but what is shewn to be *necessarily connected* with the history of the *Empire*. p. 12.
 2. Because, on the other hand, the contents of the Little Opened Book are universally understood to relate to the *Church*. p. 14.
 3. Because the Protestant British nation appears in the Sealed Book in a *temporal* character, and in the Little Opened Book in a *spiritual* character. p. 14.
 4. The terms in which the future state of the blessed is spoken of in each book also point out a distinction between their several subjects. p. 16.
 5. This distinction also pointed out by a remarkable variation in each book, in the description of the adoration rendered to Christ. p. 17.
 6. A distinction between the subjects of these books further pointed out by the subdivisions of each book being dissimilar. p. 19.
- VI. The general plan confirmed, by shewing in a brief examination of the Apocalypse in the natural order of the chapters, that it contains—first, under the Seven Seals a regular and complete history of the Western branch of the Empire; secondly, under the Seven Trumpets a regular and complete history of the Eastern branch of the Empire; and, thirdly, in the Little Opened Book a regular and complete history of the Church. p. 19.
- VII. The history of the Western branch of the Empire proved to terminate at the same time with the history of the Eastern branch of the Empire, or the Seventh Seal proved to synchronize with the Seventh Trumpet. p. 30.
- VIII. The history of the Church proved to terminate at the same time with the histories of the Western and Eastern branches of the Empire, or the Seven

Vials of Wrath proved to synchronize with the Seventh Seal and Seventh Trumpet, p. 31.

IX. The various prophecies of Daniel, Esdras, and Saint John, classed together, which relate to the Roman Empire, viz.

1. During the period of its Strength, as one great undivided empire. p. 33.
2. During the period of its Weakness, when divided into ten kingdoms. p. 35.
3. During the period of its Destruction, when the ten kingdoms are broken to pieces. p. 36.

X. The various prophecies of Daniel, Esdras, and Saint John, classed together, which relate to the history of the Church, viz.

1. During the period of Paganism. p. 37.
2. During the period of Popery. p. 38.
3. During the period of Infidelity. p. 39.

XI. The various prophecies of Daniel, Esdras, and Saint John, classed together, which relate to the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, viz.

1. During the period of its Commencement. p. 41.
2. During the period of its Progress. p. 42.
3. During the period of its Perfection. p. 44.

Observations on the Arrangement of the Apocalypse adopted by former Commentators.

I. The various parts enumerated of which the Apocalypse consists. p. 45.

II. Observations of Whiston on the importance of ascertaining the connexion and relative position of these several parts, or of establishing certain synchronisms. p. 45.

III. The principal discovery of Mede was the synchronism of the end of the period of the 1260 years, and the end of the period of the Sixth Trumpet. p. 47.

IV. Mede and Whiston, as well as Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, consider all the Seven Trumpets as being contained in the last Seal. p. 47.

1. This opinion considered to be erroneous, its origin explained. p. 48.

V. Mr. Faber rejects the synchronism adopted by Mede and Whiston, and makes the 1260 years end with the Sixth Vial. p. 51.

1. The strong terms used by Whiston in speaking of the clearness of the proof of his synchronism. p. 52.
2. Mede and Whiston prove their synchronism principally from Rev. x. 7, p. 52.
3. Mr. Faber gives an unsatisfactory interpretation of Rev. x. 7, p. 52.

4. The text, Revelations, xvi. 17, by which M. Faber supports a supposed synchronism of the end of the 1260 years with the end of the Sixth Vial, considered and shewn to be misapplied by him. p. 53.

VI. Mr. Cuninghame considers the Seals and Trumpets as running parallel with one another, and makes the *Sixth* Seal synchronize with the *Seventh* Trumpet. p. 55.

1. Objections to this arrangement stated. p. 55.
2. Arguments adduced to prove, that the period of the Seventh Trumpet *follows* the period of the Sixth Seal. p. 57.

VII. Mr. Cuninghame considers the Seven Vials as synchronical. p. 59.

1. The first argument by which he supports this arrangement stated and shewn to be inconclusive. p. 59.
2. The second argument by which he supports this arrangement stated and shewn also to be inconclusive. p. 61.
3. Mr. Cuninghame's arrangement involves an inconsistency. p. 63.
4. The speedy fall of the Ottoman Empire predicted, and

- referred to as bringing with it a refutation of the different systems of Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame. The date of this observation given. p. 64.
5. Mr. Cuninghame's scheme objectionable, as affording too great facility to the commentator. p. 66.
6. Mr. Cuninghame's synchronical arrangement of the Seven Vials shewn to be a necessary consequence of his placing the *Sixth* Seal parallel with the *Seventh* Trumpet. p. 69.
7. Sixth Seal and Sixth Trumpet shewn both to terminate on the 10th of August, 1792. p. 71.
- VIII. Mr. Faber introduces a period that has no proper place under any Seal or Trumpet. p. 74.
- IX. Mr. Cuninghame also introduces an event for which he finds no proper place under any Seal or Trumpet. p. 74.
- X. Commentators erroneously limit the Little Opened Book to four chapters. p. 75.
- XI. Table explanatory of Mr. Faber's arrangement of the Apocalypse. p. 78.
- XII. Table explanatory of Mr. Cuninghame's arrangement of the Apocalypse. p. 78.
-

Symbolical Dictionary, viz.

- I. The Earth—The Third Part of the Earth—The Fourth Part of the Earth—An Earthquake. p. 81.—The Sun—The Moon—The Stars—The Heavens—The Sun (spiritually)—The Moon (spiritually)—The Stars (spiritually)—Great Waters. p. 82.—The Sea—A Sea of Glass—The Four Winds. p. 83.—The Great River Euphrates—The Air—Wild Beasts. p. 84.—The Horns of Wild Beasts—The Heads of Wild Beasts—The Image of a Wild

- Beast—The two-horned Beast of the Earth—The Scarlet-coloured Beast out of the Bottomless Pit—The Chaste Woman. p. 85.—The Seed of the Woman—Fornication—The Unchaste Woman—The Kings of the Earth who have committed fornication with her—The Undeiled with Women—The Great City Babylon. p. 86.—The Great City called Sodom and Egypt—The Holy City Jerusalem—The Temple—The Outer Court. p. 87.—The Holy Place or Second Court—The Holy of Holies. p. 88.—The Living Creatures which surround the Throne—Incense or Sweet Odours. p. 89.—White Robes—The Israelitish Nation—The Gentiles—The Two Witnesses. p. 90.—Rain from Heaven—Grass and every green thing—A River of pure Water—Rivers and Fountains of Water—A Falling (or Shooting) Star—A Comet—A Flood. p. 91.—A Storm of Hail—A Flight of Locusts—Ships—Ship Masters—A Seal or Mark set upon any one—The Seal of God—The Wings of an Eagle. p. 92.—The Wings of a Fowl of the Air—An Horse—The Tail of a Scorpion—The Tail of any Animal—A Day—A Month—A Time or Year—A Dividing of Time—An Hour. p. 93.—The Harvest of the Earth—The Vintage—Fire—Lightning—Thunder. p. 94.
- II. All objects introduced into a symbolical description not necessarily themselves symbolical. p. 94.
- III. Symbols, though all of them substantives, may be used as adjectives. p. 95.
- IV. We must distinguish in Saint John between Symbolical description and the machinery of the prophecy. p. 96.
- V. Also between symbolical description and symbolical narrative. p. 97.

CONTENTS.

Remarks upon the Interpretations of the Symbols given by former Commentators.

- I. Inconsistency of the commonly received interpretation of the Symbol of the Third Part of the Earth. p. 99.
 1. The cause that has led to its general adoption is a universal error, made in the supposed relative position of the Seals and Trumpets. p. 99.
 2. Mr. Cuninghame's criticism upon Mr. Faber's interpretation of this Symbol correct. p. 100.
 3. A new interpretation of this Symbol proposed by Mr. Cuninghame, not satisfactory. p. 102.
 4. No means of avoiding the difficulty found by Commentators in the interpretation of this Symbol, except by correcting in the usual arrangement of the Apocalypse the relative position of the Seals and Trumpets. p. 102.
- II. The Symbol of the Scarlet-coloured Beast erroneously interpreted. p. 103.
 1. This error creates a difficulty in the interpretation of Rev. xvii. 11. p. 103.
 2. Notwithstanding this difficulty, Mr. Cuninghame has suggested the meaning of the text, referring it to Napoleon Buonaparte. p. 104.
 3. The difficulty of this text (acknowledged by Mr. Cuninghame) is removed, by adopting the new meaning of the Symbol of the Scarlet-coloured Beast. p. 105.
 4. Other texts, as Rev. xi. 7 and xvii. 8, satisfactorily explained, by adopting the new meaning of the Symbol. p. 106.
 5. A prediction that Buonaparte will become Emperor of Rome; the date of this inserted. p. 105.

6. The homogenous Symbols of the Great Red Dragon, the Two-horned Beast of the Earth, and the Scarlet-coloured Beast out of the bottomless pit, represent severally Paganism, Popery, and Infidelity. p. 113.
 - III. The Symbol of the Great City called Sodom and Egypt hitherto erroneously interpreted. p. 114.
 1. The text, Rev. xi. 8, satisfactorily explained, by adopting the new interpretation of the Symbol of the Great City called Sodom and Egypt. p. 114.
 2. The homogenous Symbols of the *Cities* represent Paganism, Popery, and Infidelity. p. 114.
 - IV. The meaning given in this work to the Israelitish Nation, and to various other Symbols, different from those of other Commentators, p. 114.
-

CHAP. II.

Daniel's Vision of the Great Image—describing, 1st. The Kingdom of Babylon. 2d. The Kingdoms of Media and Persia. 3d. The Kingdoms that were the seat of the Macedonian Empire. 4th. The Western Roman Empire, in the periods of its strength, weakness, and destruction: and 5th. The Temporal Kingdom of Christ in the periods of its commencement, progress, and perfection.

- I. **FOUNDERS** of the three first Empires all informed of the things in prophecy which related to themselves. p. 120.
- II. The vision of the Great Image and of the Four Beasts relate to the four great Empires, and the vision of the Ram and the He-goat to the second and third of these Empires. p. 124.

- III. The Head of Gold in one vision, and the Lion in the other, each represent the Kingdom of Babylon. p. 126.
- IV. The Breast and Arms of Silver in the one vision, the Bear in the other, and the Ram with two horns in the third, are different representations of the united Kingdom of Media and Persia. p. 126.
- V. The Belly and Thighs of Brass in the one vision, the Leopard with four heads in the other, and the He-goat, having eventually four horns, in the third, are different representations of the Kingdom of Alexander and his successors. p. 129.
- VI. The Legs of Iron, and feet and toes, part of iron and part of clay, in the one vision, and the Ten-horned Monster in the other, each represent the Western Roman Empire. p. 133.
1. The Western Roman Empire in the period of its strength typified by the Iron. p. 133.
 2. The Western Roman Empire in its divided and weak state typified by the mixture of the Iron and Clay. p. 135.
- VII. Inquiry which are the Ten Kingdoms represented by the Ten Toes of the Image, and the Ten Horns of the Monster. p. 136.
1. Analogy requires that they should be interpreted as describing *territorial* subdivisions of the Western Roman Empire. p. 138.
 2. References made to various prophecies in proof of this. p. 138.
 3. The Ten Kingdoms named. p. 142.
- VIII. The Ten Kingdoms divided into the two classes of the Kingdoms of Iron and the Kingdoms of Clay. p. 143.
1. The future tyrannical reigns of Rome and Austria declared.—This predicted while Buonaparte was Emperor of France. p. 144.

- IX. The destruction of the Ten Kingdoms, and the commencement of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, represented by the Stone smiting upon the Feet and Toes of the Image.—This period commenced in the year 1792. p. 144.
- X. The Progress of the Kingdom of Christ represented by the Stone's increasing to a Mountain. p. 150.
- XI. The Period of the Perfection of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, or the Millennium, is the period during which the Mountain fills the whole Earth. p. 150.

Remarks upon the interpretations given by former Commentators of the vision of the Great Image, and the other visions in which the four great Empires are represented.

- I. Sir Isaac Newton considers the Four Beasts as representing *distinct and separate territories*. p. 151.
1. This hypothesis controverted by Mr. Faber. p. 152.
 2. The grounds of Mr. Faber's objection to Sir Isaac Newton's hypothesis examined and replied to. p. 152.
 3. The interpretation given in this work to the three ribs in the mouth of the Bear, nearly the same as that given by Sir Isaac and Bishop Newton. p. 155.
 4. No particular interpretation of these symbols given by Mr. Faber. p. 155.
- II. The principle of *territorial representation* not adopted by former commentators in their interpretations of the ten toes of the Image and the ten horns of the fourth Beast. p. 186.
1. List given of the Ten Kingdoms by Bishop Chandler, and adopted by Bishop Lloyd, Mr. Faber, and Mr. Cuninghame. p. 157.
 2. Mr. Mede's list of the ten kingdoms. p. 158.

3. Sir Isaac Newton's list of the ten kingdoms. p. 158.
4. Bishop Newton's list of the ten kingdoms. p. 159.
5. Considerable variations observable in these lists, and consequent uncertainty respecting them. p. 159.
6. The kingdoms usually named of very inferior importance. p. 161.

III. Inquiry how far the histories of the kingdoms hitherto named agree with the particulars mentioned in prophecy, relative to the Ten Toes of the Image and the Ten Horns of the Fourth Beast. p. 164.

1. Mr. Mede, Sir Isaac Newton, and Bishop Newton, agree in their interpretations of the three horns that were plucked up by the little Papal horn; but the two former find a difficulty in reconciling their interpretations of this part of the prophecy with their lists of the ten kingdoms. p. 164.
2. Bishop Newton forms his list with a particular view to the interpretation of the three horns that were plucked up. p. 166.
3. Mr. Faber, objecting to Bishop Newton's list of the ten kingdoms, gives a new interpretation of the three horns that were plucked up. p. 166.
4. Evident objections to his interpretation. p. 167.
5. Mr. Faber endeavours to modify the symbolical representation relative to the three horns, so as the better to admit of his interpretation. p. 167.
6. He gives a new translation of an important word. p. 169.
7. A remark upon Mr. Faber's interpretation. p. 169.
8. Mr. Faber's interpretation open to a similar criticism to that which he makes upon Bishop Newton's. p. 171.
9. The difficulties found by former commentators in naming the ten kingdoms, so as to include the three that were plucked up, can only be removed

- by admitting the principle of *territorial* representation. p. 172.
- IV. The second circumstance mentioned in the prophecies, relative to the ten kingdoms, not fulfilled in the kingdoms named in the lists of former commentators. p. 173.
- V. The third circumstance relative to the ten kingdoms also unfulfilled by the kingdoms hitherto named. p. 174.
- VI. The fourth circumstance relative to these kingdoms also unfulfilled. p. 174.
- VII. Usual interpretation of a passage relative to the kingdoms of Iron and Clay unsatisfactory. p. 176.
-

CHAP. III.

Daniel's Vision of the four Beasts, representing the Four Ruling Kingdoms of the World. The Little Papal Horn described—First, in the period of the 1260 years of its prosperity; Secondly, in the period during which the Judgment sits upon it to take away its dominion.

- I. **THE** Papal Power the chief subject of this prophecy. p. 179.
- II. Different appearance of the kingdoms of this world to Nebuchadnezzar and to Daniel. p. 180.
- III. The Symbol of the Great Sea. p. 181.
1. The Symbol of the Four Winds. p. 182.
 2. The Four Beasts rising out of the Sea. p. 184.
- IV. The Symbol of the Eagle's Wings upon the Lion. p. 184.
1. The Lion's Wings plucked. p. 186.
- V. The Bear with three Ribs in his mouth. p. 187.
- VI. The Leopard with four heads and the Wings of a fowl. p. 188.
- VII. The Ten-horned Monster. p. 188.

VIII. The rise of the Papacy represented by the rise of the little horn having eyes. p. 190.

IX. The overthrow of three of the ten kingdoms, through the influence of the Papacy, represented in the prophecy by three of the ten horns being plucked up by the little horn. p. 193.

1. Accomplishment of this prophecy. p. 193.

X. The Papacy makes war with the Saints, and prevails against them for a time, times, and half, or 1260 years. p. 195.

1. Commencement of this period correctly dated by Mr. Cuninghame from the edict of Justinian, in March, 533. p. 197.

2. May have terminated, according to the scriptural mode of reckoning, any where between March, 1792, and March, 1793. p. 198.

3. The actual termination of the period was on the 10th August, 1792. p. 199.

XI. The period of the destruction of the Papacy commenced in the year 1792. p. 199.

XII. The sitting of the Judgment for the destruction of the Papal nations of the Roman Empire, or the first period of the reign of Christ and of the Saints commenced at the same time. p. 200.

1. This proved from the vision of the Great Image. p. 202.

2. From Rev. x. 1—7. p. 202.

3. From Dan. vii. 21, 22. p. 203.

4. From Rev. xi. 15—18. p. 203.

5. From the representation in the Apocalypse of the manner in which the seven last plagues are inflicted. p. 204.

6. From the description given of the Saints in the battle of Armageddon. p. 205.

7. From the prophecy of Enoch. p. 206.

8. From the description given of the Saints at the commencement of the Millennium. p. 207.

9. The doctrine of the present consciousness of the glorified saints not unscriptural. p. 207.
- XIII. The period of the destruction of the Roman Empire will terminate A. D. 1822—3. p. 210.
- XIV. The burning the body of the Ten-horned Monster, the Coming of the Son of Man, and the restoration of the Jews, immediately succeed. p. 211.
- XV. The 110th Psalm contains a remarkable prophecy of these times, and particularly of the conversion of the Jews. p. 213.
- XVI. The description given of the time of the second advent of the Son of Man in the Evangelists accords with that given in this prophecy of Daniel. p. 214.
- XVII. The period of the Millennium. p. 216.

Remarks on the interpretations of the Vision of the Four Beasts given by former Commentators.

- I. Mr. Faber considers the period of the *prolongation* of the lives of the three first Beasts to be during the period of the Millennium. p. 217.
1. This interpretation connected with his rejection of the principle of *territorial* representation in interpreting the symbols of the Four Beasts. p. 219.
 2. Mr. Faber's interpretation inadmissible. p. 220.
 3. Inconsistent also with the descriptions elsewhere given of the state of the world during the period of the Millennium. p. 221.
 4. Proof that the prolongation of the lives of the three first Beasts is before the destruction of the fourth Beast, and not during the Millennium. p. 222.
 5. The interpretation given in this work, of the prolongation of the lives of the three first Beasts, to be found also in the work of Sir Isaac Newton. p. 223.

- II. All former Commentators have confined the reign of Christ, during the latter days, to the single period of the Millennium, instead of giving to it to three periods, consisting severally of 30, 45, and 1000 years. p. 223.
1. Consequently passages in Daniel, that refer to these distinct periods, are by Mede and Bishop Newton considered as referring to one and the same period. p. 224.
 2. Mr. Faber embarrassed in his interpretation of these passages owing to the same circumstance. p. 225.
 3. The unbiassed evidence of an old Commentator adduced to prove that the reign of Christ begins with the period of the Seventh Trumpet, i. e., in the year 1792. p. 228.
 4. Mr. Faber does not divide the history of the Papacy into two distinct periods, as the prophecy seems to require. p. 229.
 5. Defect in Mr. Faber's system pointed out, as it regards his application of the numbers of Daniel. p. 230.
- III. Passage of Zechariah quoted, that refers particularly to the period of the 45 years of Daniel. p. 231.
-

CHAP. IV.

The Vision of the Ram and the He-goat—The second ruling kingdom of the world, comprehending Media and Persia—The third ruling kingdom of the world, comprehending Macedon, Thrace, Syria, and Egypt—And the Mahometan Little Horn, described.

I. THIS vision relates particularly to the Mahometan Power. p. 233.

II. The prophecy, omitting the history of the kingdom of

- Babylon, commences with the history of the united kingdom of the Medes and Persians,—and why. p. 234.
- III. The first position of the ram with two horns, as described by the Prophet, aptly represents the position of the forces of the Medes and Persians at the time the vision was seen. p. 236.
- IV. The pushings of the Ram describe the conquests of Cyrus. p. 238.
1. Quotation from the history of Prideaux, describing these conquests. p. 239.
- V. The He-goat's coming with rapidity from the West, describes the rapid advance of Alexander into Asia at the head of his army. p. 242.
1. The death of Alexander, and the division of his kingdom into four parts. p. 246.
- VI. The rise of the Mahometan Little Horn. p. 247.
1. This Little Horn represents a teacher of certain new doctrines. p. 248.
 2. The Mahometan and Infidel Powers both represented in Revelations as rising out of the bottomless pit.—A great similarity in their doctrines. p. 250.
 3. The Mahometan Power indebted partly to the influence of its new doctrines for its success in arms. p. 250.
 4. The Mahometan Power arose when the corruption of the Greek Church was complete. p. 251.
 5. Its conquests described. p. 251.
 6. Establishes itself upon the ruins of the Eastern Church. p. 252.
 7. Magnifies himself against the Prince of the Host. p. 242.
- VII. Reference made to the prophecies in the Revelations, relative to the Mahometan Power. p. 254.
- VIII. The period during which Mahometanism is to prevail.—The importance of correctly ascertaining when this period will terminate. p. 256.

CONTENTS.

xxv

1. Caution used by the Author in attempting to ascertain the true interpretation of this part of prophecy. p. 257.
 2. Difficulties which it appeared must attend this part of prophecy. p. 258.
 3. The Author disappointed in the expected termination of the vision. p. 259.
 4. Finds however that the actual termination is equally satisfactory with either of the results he had expected; while it is at the same time free from the difficulties which he had apprehended. p. 260.
 5. The actual termination of the period of the vision falls into the period of the progress of the Kingdom of Christ, and divides it into two regular parts; the first of which terminates with the conversion of the Mahometan nations; the other with the conversion of all the Pagan nations of the world, and the introduction of the Millennium. p. 261.
- IX. The fall of Mahometanism may perhaps be considered as *beginning* when the fall of the Ottoman Empire takes place. This event is mentioned in the Revelations as the next that is to occur, when the sufferings of France, predicted under the fifth Vial, are accomplished. p. 263.
- X. It cannot be determined from the prophecy in what manner the Ottoman Empire will fall. This will be shortly shewn by the event. p. 264.

Remarks upon the Interpretations of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat given by former Commentators.

- I. The Little Horn of the He-goat formerly supposed to represent Antiochus Epiphanes. p. 265.
- II. Sir Isaac and Bishop Newton consider it as a symbol of

the Empire of the Romans as established in the East, and are followed in this interpretation by Mr. Cuninghame. p. 266.

III. Mr. Faber correctly interprets it as representing Mahometanism. His satisfactory argument against a contrary interpretation. p. 267.

IV. Mr. Faber's opinion, that Popery and Mahometanism began at the same time, and would end together, erroneous. p. 269.

1. This opinion supported by a mistaken interpretation of Dan. xi. 31 and xii. 11.—It leads Mr. Faber to give too late a date to the commencement of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat. p. 270, 271.

V. Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame's ideas as to the time of the commencement of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat, are both accommodated to their previous interpretations relative to the 1260 years of the Papacy. p. 271.

VI. The year in which the vision was seen the only date precisely marked in the whole prophecy. p. 272.

VII. Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame fix upon the years A. C. 535, and A. C. 508, for the commencement of the vision, as being suitable to their respective systems. p. 273.

1. These two dates, the subject of a long discussion carried on between Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, in the pages of the Christian Observer, but attended with no decisive result. p. 274.

VIII. The prophetic visions uniformly commence from the time at which they were seen. p. 275.

1. This proved from the vision of the Great Image. p. 276.

2. From the vision of the Four Beasts. p. 276.

3. From the most natural interpretation of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat. p. 276.

4. From the last prophecy of Daniel. p. 277.
 5. From the Apocalypse of St. John. p. 277.
 - IX. The argument by which Mr. Faber supports his opinion, that the vision commences *after* the conquests of Cyrus, stated, and replied to. p. 278.
 - X. A different argument by which Mr. Cuninghame supports the same opinion stated, and replied to. p. 280.
 - XI. Description from Prideaux of the victories of Darius Hystaspes.—These victories referred to by Mr. Faber as those represented by the pushings of the Ram. p. 283.
 1. These victories unsuitable with the symbolical representation of the Prophet. p. 285.
 2. No other victories more suitable mentioned in history subsequent to these. p. 286.
 - XII. Mr. Cuninghame understands the Temple at Jerusalem mentioned in the prophecy in two different senses. p. 288.
 - XIII. His opinion that the Sanctuary was cleansed in the year 1792 untenable. p. 288.
 1. This proved both from facts and prophecy. p. 289.
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Observations upon the controversy between Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, relative to the Interpretation of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat.

- I. Mr. Cuninghame brings as an objection to Mr. Faber's interpretation of this vision, that the Mahometan Power did *not* rise "in the latter time" of the four kingdoms.—This objection valid against Mr. Faber's interpretation of the Four Horns, but not against the application of the symbol of the Little Horn to Mahometanism. p. 291.

1. Mr. Faber, to support his system, gives a new meaning to the words rendered in our version "the latter time." p. 292.
2. Explanation of the text, "the latter time of their kingdom." p. 248 & 293.
3. Mr. Cuninghame, to support his system, gives a new meaning to these words. p. 294.
- II. Mr. Cuninghame's second objection, that the daily sacrifice was already taken away from the Eastern Church before the rise of Mahometanism, answered. p. 295.
- III. Mr. Cuninghame's third objection, that Mahometanism was an opposing superstition without the Church, and not an Abomination of Desolation in the Church, answered. p. 296.
1. Quotation from Mr. Faber, shewing the similarity that there is between Popery and Mahometanism, and between the symbols by which they are represented. p. 298.
2. A remarkable passage quoted from the prophecy of Esdras, in which this similarity is pointed out. p. 299.
- IV. Mr. Cuninghame's fourth objection, that Mahometanism did not "destroy the mighty and the holy people," answered. p. 300.
- V. A quotation from Mr. Faber, in answer to Mr. Cuninghame's fifth objection, that Mahometanism can never "stand up against the Prince of Princes;" and further remarks on this subject. p. 302.
- VI. Mr. Cuninghame's sixth objection, that Mahometanism cannot be considered as an Abomination of Desolation in the Eastern Church, because it is not so represented in the account given of the Fifth and Sixth Trumpets, answered. p. 303.

1. Mr. Cuninghame's objection, that it is not so represented in any other part of the Apocalypse, answered. p. 305.
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CHAP. V.

Daniel's last Prophecy of "that which is noted in the Scripture of Truth."

The history of individual Kings of Persia, Greece, Syria, Egypt, &c.—The history of the Infidel King.

- I. THE events of the present day of an importance sufficient to lead us to expect that they will be the subject of prophecy. p. 307.
- II. Napoleon Buonaparte a character of not less importance than Cyrus, Xerxes, Alexander, &c. who are all mentioned in prophecy. p. 307.
- III. The last prophecy of Daniel describes Napoleon Buonaparte, the Infidel Power of the last days. p. 308.
- IV. His hatred to the British nation characteristic. p. 308.
- V. The period of Infidelity confined to the period of the life of an individual. p. 309.
 1. The prophecy therefore relating to it consists throughout of the histories of the lives of *individuals*. p. 309.
- VI. This prophetic vision, like every other, commences from the time when the vision was seen. p. 310.
- VII. Daniel had a clearer understanding of this vision than of any other—and why. p. 313.
- VIII. The sublime vision of Christ seen by Daniel, similar to the appearance of Christ as described in the Revelations. p. 316.
- IX. It is the Angel Gabriel who touches Daniel to strengthen him. p. 316.

- X.** The Prince of Persia, who withstood the Angel Gabriel—who supposed to be. p. 318.
1. Reference to the Book of Job, Saint Jude, and Revelations, for examples of Satan's open opposition to the Church of Christ. p. 319.
- XI.** Gabriel the only Angel that is *named* in Scripture, and employed on the highest commissions relative to the Church of Christ. p. 322.
- XII.** The Angel Gabriel declares, that he had assisted to overthrow the Babylonian, and that he should hereafter assist to overthrow the Persian Empire. p. 323.
1. Remarkable passage in Prideaux's history illustrative of the accomplishment of this prediction. p. 324.
- XIII.** Four Kings of Persia, Cambyzes, Smerdis, Darius Hystaspes, and Xerxes, spoken of. p. 325.
- XIV.** The expedition of Xerxes into Greece. p. 327.
- XV.** In passing from the Persian to the Grecian Empire, the prophecy omits the reigns of several Kings of Persia. p. 328.
- XVI.** The reign of Alexander the Great. p. 328.
1. His death, and the division of his kingdom. p. 329.
- XVII.** The reigns of the Kings of Syria and Egypt—Seleucus Nicator King of Syria, and Ptolemy King of Egypt. p. 330.
- XVIII.** Antiochus Theus King of Syria, and Ptolemy Philadelphus King of Egypt. p. 333.
- XIX.** Seleucus Callinicus King of Syria, and Ptolemy Euergetes King of Egypt. p. 335.
- XX.** Seleucus Ceraunus and Antiochus Magnus, Kings of Syria. p. 336.
1. Ptolemy Philopator King of Egypt defeats Antiochus the Great with immense slaughter. p. 337.
 2. He gives himself up to debaucheries, and persecutes the Jews. p. 339.

3. Ptolemy Epiphanes succeeds to the throne of Egypt on the death of Ptolemy Philopator. p. 341.
 4. Antiochus the Great invades Egypt. p. 341.
 5. The Jews revolt from Ptolemy. p. 342.
 6. Antiochus defeats the army of Ptolemy, and takes Sidon. p. 343.
 7. Antiochus grants great privileges to the Jews. p. 344.
 8. Gives his daughter Cleopatra to the young King Ptolemy. p. 345.
 9. Who takes the part of her husband rather than of her father. p. 346.
 10. Antiochus takes many of the maritime cities and islands on the coasts of Asia Minor. p. 347.
 11. He is completely defeated by Scipio, and Syria becomes tributary to the Romans. p. 349.
 12. Dies ingloriously.—The manner of his death not precisely known. p. 350.
- XXI. The prophecy passes over to the Roman Empire.—The history of little more than two hundred years has yet been given.—The prophecy would be extended to an extraordinary length were it to relate in this manner the lives of a regular succession of individuals. p. 351.
- XXII. This kind of prophecy so clear, that were it continued through every generation, every event would have been foreseen before it took place. p. 352.
- XXIII. A great interval in the prophecy to be expected in this place. p. 353.
- XXIV. The prophecy passes from Antiochus the Great to Louis XVI. the immediate predecessor of the Infidel King. p. 353.
- J. Louis XVI. a Raiser of Taxes.—His eventful death. p. 354.
- XXV. Napoleon Buonaparte of base origin, obtains the Empire of France by artifice. p. 355.

1. He is appointed to the command of the army of Italy in the year 1796. p. 359.
- (a) Defeats the Austrians under General Beaulieu—who is obliged to retreat into the Tyrol. p. 359.
2. Enters upon the Papal territories 19th of June, 1796—the Pope obliged to purchase a peace by great sacrifices. p. 361.
3. Consolidates his power in Italy—flatters the Literati. p. 363.
4. Levies immense contributions. p. 368.
5. Takes the castle of Milan, and invests the fortress of Mantua. p. 374.
6. The Emperor of Austria uses every exertion to collect another army for the defence of Italy. p. 377.
7. Buonaparte, though possessed only of an inferior force, defeats the Austrian armies by the skilfulness of his manœuvres. p. 379.
8. End of the campaign of the Austrians in Italy. p. 381.
9. The plans of the Austrian army betrayed to Buonaparte. p. 382.
- (a) Their great loss in this campaign. p. 381.
10. The Emperor of Austria and the Pope enter into a league together. p. 384.
- (a) General Colli sent by the Emperor to take the command of the Papal forces.—The Papal States overrun by the French.—The Pope submits. p. 390.
11. Recapitulation of the events of the campaign.—During his stay in Italy Buonaparte shewed his hatred of England by occupying the port of Leghorn. p. 391.
- (a) Suspension of hostilities with Austria in April, 1797.—Treaty of Campo Formio signed 17th of October. p. 397.
- (b) Situation of the Pope during the year 1797. p. 398.
- The overthrow of the Papacy expected at Rome. p. 398.

- (c) An insurrection in Rome.—The Papal government overthrown.—Rome declared a Republic 15th February, 1798. p. 399.
- (d) The Cardinals expelled from Rome.—The Pope himself banished, and dies in obscurity. p. 402.
- 12. Buonaparte sails from Toulon, and lands in Egypt 2d July, 1798. p. 404.
- 13. Battle of the Nile fought on the 1st of August, 1798. p. 405.
- (a) Buonaparte repulsed before St. John d'Acre in May, 1799. p. 405.
- 14. Quits the expedition, and returns to France 23d August, 1799. p. 407.
- 15. Finds the affairs of France in great disorder. p. 409.
- (a) His military success.—Defeats the Austrians in the battle of Marengo 16th June, 1800. p. 410.
- (b) The Austrians defeated by Moreau in the battle of Hohenlinden, fought on the 3d December, 1800. p. 411.
- (c) Treaty of Luneville signed on the 9th February, 1801. p. 412.
- 16. Buonaparte enters into a negotiation with the Pope for the re-establishment of the Catholic worship in France; Concordat signed 10th September, 1801. p. 412.
- 17. Excites a confederacy of the Northern Powers against Great Britain. p. 419.
- (a) The Danes defeated in the battle of Copenhagen on the 2d April, 1801, and detached from the confederacy. p. 426.
- (b) The confederacy finally dissolved by the death of the Emperor Paul, and the accession of the Emperor Alexander. p. 429.
- 18. General efforts made for the diffusion of religious

- knowledge.—Different Missionary Societies established.—Bible Society established in the year 1804. p. 430.
19. Sufferings of the Protestant countries of Germany, from the year 1805 to the year 1807 ; and again in the year 1813.—Establishment of the Society for the Relief of the Distresses in Germany. p. 435.
- (7a) The prophecy continuing the personal history of the Infidel King. p. 445.
20. Aggrandizement of France during the negotiation of the peace of Amiens, signed on 27th March, 1802. p. 447.
- (a) Buonaparte exercises an arbitrary and despotic power in France. p. 448.
21. Commences a long course of uninterrupted prosperity—defeats the allied Austrian and Russian army at the battle of Austerlitz 2d December, 1805: p. 452.
- (a) Forms the Confederation of the Rhine—defeats the Prussians at the battle of Jena on the 14th October, 1806—and the Russians in the battle of Friedland on the 14th June, 1807. p. 453.
- (b) Places his brother Joseph on the throne of Spain, 1808. p. 454.
- (c) Renews the war with Austria, and enters Vienna 13th May, 1809. p. 455.
- (d) Peace concluded at Vienna on the 14th October, 1809. p. 456.
- (e) Divorces the Empress Josephine, and marries the Archduchess of Austria. p. 456.
- (f) Invades Russia with an immense force, June, 1812. p. 458.
22. The policy of Buonaparte in rewarding his followers with grants of land in the conquered countries p. 459.
- (a) List of the Kings, Princes, and Marshals, created by him. p. 463.

23. The character of Buonaparte—his infidelity and unbelief—trusts alone in his own destiny—honours only the God of War. p. 465.
- (a) Magnifies himself, and speaks marvellous things against the God of Gods. p. 468.
- (b) Assumes even the name of the Divinity. p. 472.
24. His retreat from Moscow in the winter of the year 1812—The campaign of the years 1813—1814. p. 473.
25. Buonaparte abdicates the thrones of France and Italy, and retires to the island of Elba. p. 474.
- XXVI. The remainder of this prophecy, relating to things yet future, to be illustrated by comparing it with the cotemporary prophecies in the Revelations. p. 476.
1. The periods of the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Vials, already expired. p. 476.
 2. The Fifth Vial predicts a dreadful judgment upon France; the events of this Vial probably yet future. p. 476.
 3. The same period spoken of in Dan. xi. 40, which describes a joint attack upon Buonaparte by the Emperors of Austria and Russia, aided by a great naval force. p. 477.
 4. The Infidel Power passes over from France to some other country. p. 477.
- XXVII. He goes by land on a second expedition into Egypt, passing in his way through Judea—then again returns from Egypt into Judea, probably to oppose the restoration of the ten tribes, when he and all his army are utterly destroyed. p. 478.
- XXVIII. A time of general trouble.—The Jews converted and restored.—The second period of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ commences. p. 482.

Remarks on the Interpretations given by former Commentators of the last Prophecy of Daniel, or of "that which is noted in the Scripture of Truth."

- I. All Commentators agreed in their interpretation of the first part of this prophecy, as relating to the several Kings of Persia, Greece, Syria, and Egypt. p. 483.
 1. Commentators universally allow that the latter part of the prophecy is more obscure. p. 484.
 2. The first verses of that part of the prophecy which relates to the Vile Person, applied by all Commentators to Antiochus Epiphanes. p. 485.
 3. No part of the prophecy, after verse 31, interpreted by Mr. Faber, or the generality of Commentators, as relating to the life of *an individual*. p. 486.
 4. Mr. Faber's interpretation given. p. 486.
 5. The first part of the prophecy being remarkably clear, the obscurity which is supposed to exist in the latter part affords a presumption that the true interpretation of it has never yet been discovered. p. 488.
- II. Reference made to the different interpretations given by Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat.—Bishop Newton's and Mr. Cuninghame's interpretation of that prophecy to be rejected, because the temple at Jerusalem is *inconsistently* translated by them. p. 488.
 1. Consistency of interpretation in every case the strongest evidence of truth. p. 489.
 2. From the interpretation given of the former part of the prophecy before us, we must, to be consistent, interpret the latter part as relating to *an individual*. p. 491.

INDEX

TO

THE TEXTS ILLUSTRATED.

PSALMS.

Pages.

Psalm cx..... 213

ISAIAH, Chap. lxiii.

Ver. 4..... 42

DANIEL, Chap. ii.

Ver. 32..... 123—132
 33..... 133—144
 34..... 145—148
 35..... 148—151
 37—39.. 125—132
 40..... 134
 41—43.. { 135—144
 { 176—178
 44, 45.. 145—151

Chap. vii.

Ver. 2, 3. 181—184
 4. 184—187
 5. 127—129
 6. 129—132
 7. { 134—142
 { 188—190
 8. 190—195
 9—11.. 200—211
 12..... { 210
 { 217—223
 13, 14.. 211—217
 21, 22.. 195—199
 23, 24.. 189—195
 25..... 195—199
 26..... 200
 27..... 216

DANIEL—(continued).

Chap. viii.

Pages.

Ver. 3. 234—238
 4. 238—242
 5—8..... 242—247
 9. 247—252
 10. 252—254
 11. 254
 12. 254—256
 13, 14. .. 256
 21, 22. .. 246—247
 23. 247—251
 24. { 250—252
 { 299—301
 { 250—251
 25. { 263—265
 { 301—303

Chap. x.

Ver. 4—9. 315—316
 10, 11. .. 316—317
 12. 318
 13, 14. .. 318—321
 15—19. .. 321—322
 20, 21. .. 323—324

Chap. xi.

Ver. 1. 323—324
 2. 325—328
 3, 4. 328—330
 5. 330—332
 6. 333—334
 7—9. 334—336
 10. 336—337

DANIEL—(continued).

	Pages.
Ver. 11.....	337—339
12.....	339—340
13.....	340—341
14.....	342
15, 16...	342—345
17.....	345—346
18.....	346—350
19.....	350—354
20.....	354—355
21.....	355—357
22.....	359—363
23—24..	363—376
25, 26..	377—384
27.....	{ 384—391
	{ 394
	{ 397—403
28.....	{ 391
	{ 395—397
29, 30...	403—409
31.....	{ 409—412
	{ 412—419
32.....	419—429
33—35..	430—445
36—39..	{ 447—459
	{ 465—475

DANIEL—(continued).

	Pages.
Ver. 39.	459—464
40.	477
41—45. ..	478—481

Chap. xii.

Ver. 1.....	{ 210
	{ 212
	{ 481

JOEL, Chap. ii.

Ver. 31.	{ 42
	{ 215

ZECH. Chap. xii.

Ver. 10.	212
---------------	-----

MATTHEW, Chap. xxiv.

Ver. 29, 30. ...	214
------------------	-----

LUKE, Chap. xxi.

Ver. 24—27. ..	215
----------------	-----

JUDE.

Ver. 9.	319
--------------	-----

* * No references are now made to II. Esdras (chap. xi. —end) or to the Revelation of Saint John, it being intended to give hereafter a regular and minute interpretation of these prophecies.

ERRATA.

Page 64, line 7 of Note, *for continued read continues.*

— 199, — 27 — — — 25th — — 26th.

COMBINED VIEW

OF THE

PROPHECIES

OF

DANIEL, ESDRAS, AND ST. JOHN.

КОНСТИТУЦИЯ

и

ЗАКОНОВ

и

ЗАКОНОВ

OR,
A COMBINED VIEW OF THE PROPHECIES
OF
DANIEL, ESDRAS, AND ST. JOHN.

OF

<p>The Book of the Revelation of Saint John. Commences A. D. 96.</p> <p>The Epistles to the Seven Churches in Asia, written for their exhortation and encouragement, refer to a period of the Empire prior to that in which Christianity became the Religion of the State. During this time the Church suffered the ten general persecutions, which may be considered as the principal actions of the period. The last begun by the Emperor Dioclesian, terminated A. D. 313.</p> <p>The Symbolical description of the Sealed and Little Opened Book commences from the more direct division of the Empire into its Western and Eastern Branches, in the time of Constantine, by the removal of the Seat of Empire to Constantinople, A. D. 330.</p>		<p>The Numbers of Daniel.</p>		<p>The Temporal Kingdom of Christ.</p>		<p>Daniel's Vision of the Great Image. contains the History of the Four Great Empires, but principally of the ROMAN EMPIRE.</p>		<p>Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts. contains principally the History of the PAPACY.</p>		<p>Daniel's Vision of the Ram and the He-Goat. contains principally the history of the MAHOMETANISM.</p>		<p>Daniel's Prophecy of "That which is noted in the Scripture of Truth," contains principally the history of the INFIDELITY.</p>		<p>Esdras's Vision of the Great Eagle. contains the history of the ROMAN EMPIRE.</p>	
<p>The Sealed Book, contains the History of the Empire.</p>		<p>The Little Opened Book, contains the History of the Church.</p>		<p>The Period of Paganism. or of the Great Red Dragon, having seven heads and ten horns. Rev. xii. <i>N B The Pagan persecutions being over before the Sealed and Little Opened Book commences, the events described are transactions in Heaven.</i> ends March, 533.</p>		<p>The Period of the Strength of the Roman Empire, or of the Legs of Iron. Dan. ii. 33, 40. ends about the Year 606.</p>		<p>The Period of Paganism, is the period of the Ten-horned Beast prior to the rise of the Eleventh Little Horn, having eyes like the eyes of Man. Dan. vii. 7, 19. ends March, 533.</p>		<p>The Period of the Strength of the Roman Empire, or of the Feet of Clay, and the Broken to Pieces. Dan. ii. 33, 40. ends about the Year 606.</p>		<p>The Period of the Strength of the Roman Empire, or of the Feet of Clay, and the Broken to Pieces. Dan. ii. 33, 40. ends about the Year 606.</p>		<p>The Period of the Strength of the Roman Empire, or of the Feet of Clay, and the Broken to Pieces. Dan. ii. 33, 40. ends about the Year 606.</p>	
<p>Seal 1. com. A. D. 330 ends A. D. 363</p> <p>Seal 2. com. A. D. 367 ends A. D. 394</p> <p>Seal 3. com. A. D. 404 ends A. D. 476</p> <p>Seal 4. com. A. D. 535 ends A. D. 556</p>		<p>Trumpet 1. com. A. D. 375 ends Oct. 3, 432</p> <p>Trumpet 2. com. A. D. 306 ends A. D. 397</p> <p>Trumpet 3. com. A. D. 429 ends</p> <p>Trumpet 4. com. A. D. 602 ends</p>		<p>Seal 5. com. about the year 606.</p> <p>Seal 6. com. 1789. ends 10th Aug. 1793</p>		<p>Trumpet 5. com. A. D. 633 ends A. D. 742</p> <p>Trumpet 6. com. A. D. 1002 ends 29 May 1453</p>		<p>Seal 1. com. A. D. 330 ends A. D. 363</p> <p>Seal 2. com. A. D. 367 ends A. D. 394</p> <p>Seal 3. com. A. D. 404 ends A. D. 476</p> <p>Seal 4. com. A. D. 535 ends A. D. 556</p>		<p>Trumpet 1. com. A. D. 375 ends Oct. 3, 432</p> <p>Trumpet 2. com. A. D. 306 ends A. D. 397</p> <p>Trumpet 3. com. A. D. 429 ends</p> <p>Trumpet 4. com. A. D. 602 ends</p>		<p>Seal 1. com. A. D. 330 ends A. D. 363</p> <p>Seal 2. com. A. D. 367 ends A. D. 394</p> <p>Seal 3. com. A. D. 404 ends A. D. 476</p> <p>Seal 4. com. A. D. 535 ends A. D. 556</p>		<p>Trumpet 1. com. A. D. 375 ends Oct. 3, 432</p> <p>Trumpet 2. com. A. D. 306 ends A. D. 397</p> <p>Trumpet 3. com. A. D. 429 ends</p> <p>Trumpet 4. com. A. D. 602 ends</p>	

<p>com. 1769 ends 10th Aug. 1792</p> <p>Seal 6.</p>	<p>com. A. D. 1662 ends 29 May 1852</p> <p>Trumpet 6.</p> <p>of the Roman Empire.</p>	<p>or the 2500 years of the Two-horned Beast that came up out of the earth, and of the Beast that rose out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns. Rev. xiii.</p> <p>ends 10th Aug. 1792.</p>	<p>Dan. xii. 7.</p>	<p>The Roman Empire, in its divided state, is the period of the Ten Toes, part of Peter's clay, and part of iron. Dan. ii. 33, 41—43.</p> <p>ends 10th Aug. 1792</p>	<p>is the period of the two times, and half, or 1260 years, during which the Saints are given into the hand of the little Papal horn. Dan. vii. 9, 24, 25.</p> <p>ends 10th Aug. 1792.</p>	<p>The little horn of the He-goats, that moved exceeding great towards the South, and towards the East, swallowed the Pleasant Land. That cast down the truth to the ground, and practised and prospered. Representing a King of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences. Dan. vii. 9, 12, 21.</p>	<p>in its divided state, is the period of the eight little horned Beaters, and of the three Great Heads of the Eagle, i. e. of one little Protestant United Kingdom, composed of two parts, of one little Roman Catholic Kingdom, and three great Roman Catholic Kingdoms. II. Eod. xi. 1, 3, 11. vii. 20, 21.</p> <p>ends 10th Aug. 1792</p>	<p>This is called "the Middle time," and ends 10 Aug. 1792.</p>
<p>com. 1769 ends 10th Aug. 1792</p> <p>Seal 7 and Trumpet 7 or 3d Woe Trumpet.</p> <p>The Harvest of Cask's Wrath.</p>	<p>com. 16th June, 1796 ends 15th Feb. 1796</p> <p>Thunder or Vial 3.</p> <p>of the Infidelity,</p> <p>com. 16th June, 1800 ends 6th April, 1813</p> <p>Thunder or Vial 4.</p> <p>of the Destruction</p> <p>com. 1 March, 1815 ends</p> <p>Thunder or Vial 6.</p> <p>of the Roman Empire.</p> <p>com. A. D. 1822-3.</p>	<p>of the Scarlet-coloured Beast that ascended out of the Bottomless Pit, having seven heads and ten horns. Rev. xvi.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1822-3.</p>	<p>30 YEARS. Dan. xii. 11.</p>	<p>The Period of the Commencement of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, is in Saint John the period of the Wrath of the Lamb. Rev. xi. 15, 17.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1822-3.</p>	<p>The Period of the Destruction of the Roman Empire, and of the Commencement of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, is the period in which the Stone smites upon the feet and toes of the Beast's Image, and breaks them to pieces. Rev. xi. 15, 17.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1822-3.</p>	<p>The Period of Infidelity. is the period during which the little Papal Horn, to take away its dominion, and to consume and to destroy it unto the end. Dan. vii. 24—25, 26.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1822-3.</p>	<p>The Period of Infidelity. The <i>Infidel King</i>, or the vile person who assumes the language of statistics, who defies the King of the South, and the Prince of the (false) covenant, goes on an expedition into Egypt, meets with a repulse from the ships of Chittim, returns to his own land, has indignation against the Holy Covenant, places the abomination that maketh desolate, evokes a confederacy against the Holy Covenant, honours the God of Forces, enjoys a long period of unintermitted prosperity, and divides the land for gain. Exalts and magnifies himself, and speaks marvels for things, against the God of Gods, but is at length defeated by the King of the North and of the South; then passes over, goes on a second expedition into Egypt, and falls eventually in the Holy Land. Dan. xi. 21—end.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1822-3.</p>	<p>The Period of The Destruction of the Roman Empire, and of The Commencement of The Temporal Kingdom of Christ, is the period in which the Lion rebukes the Eagle for her unrighteousness, and in which the Three Great Heads of the Eagle, or principal Roman Catholic countries, which, in the former period, reformed comparatively in a desolate state, successively awake, and reign with much glory and oppression. II. Eod. 37—46. xii. 31—33.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1822-3.</p>
<p>Pagan Nations converted.</p>	<p>Mahometan Nations converted.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1847.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1867.</p>	<p>45 YEARS. Dan. xii. 12.</p>	<p>The Period of The Progress of the Kingdom of Christ, is in Saint John the period during which the Bride makes herself ready for the marriage. Rev. xix. 7.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1867.</p>	<p>The Period of The Progress of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period in which the Word carries on the Iron, the Clay, the Brass, the Silver and the Gold, now refined in powder, and is the period in which the Stone smites a Great Man's sin. Dan. x. 35.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1867.</p>	<p>The Period of The Progress of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period in which the body of the Ten-horned Beast is given to the burning flame. The sublime description of the Second Advent of the Son of Man in this period, will be found in Dan. vii. 13, compare also xii. 1, Rev. i. 7, Zech. vi. 10. II. Thess. ii. 2. Jude, 14, 15, Luke, xxi. 27—29. Acts, ii. 19, 20. Rev. xvi. 15.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1867.</p>	<p>This Vision is for 2400 years, (vide Septuagint version), and at the expiration of this period, the Sanctuary of the Eastern Church will be cleansed from the corruption of the Mahometan Superstition. Dan. viii. 14.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1847.</p>	<p>The Period of The Progress of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period in which Michael the Great Prince standeth up for the Jews, and in which there is a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that same time. Dan. xii. 1.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1867.</p>	<p>The Period of The Progress of The Kingdom of Christ, is the period in which the whole body of the Eagle is burnt, and in which "the people that have been preserved," (i. e. the ten Tribes of Israel) shall be "delivered with mercy." II. Eod. xii. 3, 4.</p> <p>ends A. D. 1867.</p>
<p>THE MILLENNIUM.</p>	<p>The Period of The Perfection of the Kingdom of Christ, is in Saint John the period during which the Marriage supper of the Lamb. The Saints live and reign with Christ during this period of a thousand years.</p>	<p>The Period of The Perfection of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period during which the Mountain fills the whole Earth. Jude, ii. 25.</p>	<p>The Period of The Perfection of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period when the Kingdom and the Dominion and the greatness of the Kingdom under the whole Heaven, as given to the Saints of the Most High. Dan. vii. 27.</p>	<p>The Period of The Perfection of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period when the Kingdom and the Dominion and the greatness of the Kingdom under the whole Heaven, as given to the Saints of the Most High. Dan. vii. 27.</p>	<p>The Period of The Perfection of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period of Millennium. Dan. vii. 12.</p>	<p>The Period of The Perfection of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period of Millennium. Dan. vii. 12.</p>	<p>The Period of The Perfection of the Kingdom of Christ, is the period in which the North is rebuked, being delivered from the violence of the Eagle, and in which the people of God are "made joyful until the coming " of the Day of Judgment." II. Eod. xii. 41</p>	

A

COMBINED VIEW

OF THE

Prophecies

OF

DANIEL, ESDRAS, AND ST. JOHN.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory Observations and General Rules of Interpretation.—Arrangement of the Prophecies.—Symbolical Dictionary.

IT is to be regretted that the Prophetic Writings have been too much considered as the subjects of speculation, rather than as the objects of scientific research ; and that even the most perfect theories of the Commentators on Prophecy, like the systems proposed by the earliest philosophers to account for the motions of the heavenly bodies, are formed on principles not sufficiently simple and comprehensive, and therefore, while they afford a solu-

2 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

tion to some phenomena, are found to leave many others still unsatisfactorily explained. But whenever the Prophecies are completely understood, there is no doubt that the same grandeur, unity, and simplicity of plan will be discovered in the Word of God, as already are acknowledged in the works of His hands. Any partial elucidations of the Prophetic Writings should therefore be considered rather as offering means to the disclosure of the general laws of these writings, than as being valuable in themselves; for it can only be by its agreement with one general plan, that we can be sure that any interpretation is in itself correct; and except they lead to the illustration of some general principle, these partial discoveries will be of little advantage to the progress of the science; for with some portion of truth, there will be combined so great a proportion of error, that these truths themselves will be of but little practical use.

The attention therefore of all Commentators should be directed towards this one object: viz., with the aid of such striking elucidations of prophecy, as are afforded by certain passages in history, to form the fewest and most simple rules of general interpretation.

The wonderful events which have taken place since the year 1792, have so much increased

the number of facts forming prophetic data, as to have introduced a new era for prophetic history ; and writers of the present day, in their attempts to elucidate the Prophecies, possess advantages very superior to those enjoyed by their predecessors. These advantages have not, however, been sufficiently applied to their most important end, the discovery of general principles: and though the number of writers has been greatly increased, it is very questionable whether the science has been proportionably advanced, either in itself, or in the estimation of the public ; and whether the great diversity of opinions, and the many fanciful interpretations proposed, have not rather tended to confirm the idea before entertained, of the great difficulty and uncertainty of any attempt to explain the prophecies.

The works of Mr. Faber, and of Mr. Cuninghame, are however to be esteemed as valuable acquisitions to the public ; for they have undoubtedly tended to throw considerable light on some important points.

In the course of the examination, upon which we are now entering, I should willingly have avoided any reference to the opinion of other Commentators, leaving each system to stand upon its own merits ; but I am aware of the truth of the observation made by Mr. Faber,

4 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

that on so important a subject, and where only one interpretation can be right, no person ought to offer a new one, unless he can at the same time shew that of his predecessor to be unsatisfactory*; and this rule I feel it peculiarly incumbent upon me to observe, as my chief object is to maintain the accuracy, precision, and competency of the Prophetic Writings.

As there can be but one true interpretation of each prophecy, Commentators, in order to obtain this, should endeavour to make their general rules of examination as strict as pos-

* See the Dedication of Mr. Faber's Work on the Prophecies, where he observes as follows:—"An intemperate introduction of new interpretations is highly dangerous and mischievous; because it has a natural tendency to unsettle the minds of the careless and the wavering, and is apt to induce them hastily to take up the preposterous opinion, that there can be no certainty in the exposition of Prophecy. On these grounds I have ever been persuaded, that a Commentator discharges his duty but very imperfectly, if, when he advances a new interpretation of any prophecy that has been already interpreted, he satisfies himself with merely urging in favour of his scheme the most plausible arguments that he has been able to invent. Of every prediction there may be many erroneous expositions, but there can only be one that is right: it is not enough therefore for a Commentator to fortify with elaborate ingenuity his own system. Before he can reasonably expect it to be adopted by others, he must shew likewise,

sible ; that while they are found to be universally applicable, they may yet in every individual case allow of but one meaning.

The following Rules are founded upon a conviction that the Prophetic Writings are in every respect perfect, and consequently capable of one uniform and satisfactory explanation: Commentators endeavouring to obtain an interpretation of them on these grounds, may hope that their labour will not be vain and fruitless.

THE FIRST RULE therefore which I propose to establish is, That all the prophecies must be arranged on one uniform plan.

“ that the expositions of his predecessors are erroneous in
“ those points wherein he differs from them. Such a mode
“ of writing as this may undoubtedly expose him to the
“ charge of captiousness: it will likewise unavoidably in-
“ crease the size of his work; and may possibly weary those
“ readers, who dislike the trouble of thoroughly examining
“ a subject: but it will be found to be the only way, in
“ which there is even a probability of attaining to the truth.”

The method here recommended by Mr. Faber I agree with him in considering as the best calculated to produce eventually a fixed and established interpretation of the Prophecies; I shall therefore follow it throughout this investigation. But as it may only be necessary to consider the interpretations given by the best and latest writers, my observations will chiefly be made upon Mr. Faber's “ Dissertation on the Prophecies relative to the Period of the 1260 Years,” &c. &c., and upon Mr. Cuninghame's “ Dissertation on the Seals and Trumpets, and the Prophetic Period of 1260 Years.”

6 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

THE SECOND RULE enjoins the formation of a Symbolical Dictionary, on the supposition that the language of prophecy is clear and definite, and that each word or symbol contained in it preserves the same meaning : or in other words, this Rule requires us in explaining any symbol, to refer to every other passage where it occurs, and to give it throughout a similar and consistent interpretation.

To these two principal rules the following MINOR RULES may be added.

I. As the figurative language of the Scriptures is peculiarly natural, and striking, so in interpreting the symbolical prophecies that must be considered to be their true meaning which is most easy and natural.

II. We should consider every *visible* symbol, as representing some *visible* object.

III. We must not interpret two co-existent symbols, as representing the same object ; for the same thing would then appear to be in two places at once*.

IV. On the ground of the supposed precision of prophetic language, a preference should

* The propriety of this Rule is so obvious, that it seems unnecessary to specify it ; it is therefore principally introduced in order to notice a modification of it under certain circumstances. An instance of what might appear an exception to the rule occurs in chap. xii. of the Revelations, where the

be given to that sense of any word or phrase which is most limited and precise.

These appear to be all the rules which it is necessary to enumerate, for it would seem superfluous to add that each symbol must be made to preserve in the interpretation a natural and consistent course of action †.

By a compliance with the First Rule, which requires us to arrange the several Prophecies according to one general system, we shall be assured that we accurately understand the plan of each ; as the one will confirm the other. By

Church is represented by two co-existent symbols,—The WOMAN,—and The SEED OF THE WOMAN:—but here it is to be observed, that the two symbols describe the same thing in two different capacities, and, taken together, only form one complete representation of the object: the WOMAN represents The Church as a Spiritual Establishment, or a Collective body, The SEED OF THE WOMAN, the Individual Members of that body. So the Holy Place or INNER COURT of the Temple, mentioned in chap. xi. of the Revelations, also represents the Spiritual Church on Earth,—its Individual Members, are THOSE WHO WORSHIP in that part of the Temple.

† Yet the Two Witnesses spoken of in chap. xi. of the Revelations as prophesying, clothed in sackcloth during a period of 1260 years, have been represented in the works of I believe all our best and ablest Commentators as slain, lying dead three years and a half, and ascending into Heaven, several hundred years before they consider the period of their prophesying upon earth to terminate.

this Rule also, which leads us to make natural divisions in all the prophecies, and to establish certain coincidencies between them at collateral points, the Commentator will be enabled to confirm his interpretation, by comparing it with that of the parallel prophecy, where most frequently the same fact will be found to be spoken of, in terms equally applicable to the event.

In adhering to the Second Rule, that of referring to all the places where the same symbols are found, we are using the surest means of obtaining the correct sense of each word or symbol employed in the narration of prophetic history.

In examining, as required by our first rule, the works of the historical prophets, Daniel and Saint John, for the purpose of discovering their general plan, we shall perceive two classes of prophecies, of which the object of the one is to give the Temporal History of the world, and of the other, the History of the Church.

Thus the vision of the Great Image of Daniel*, and the Sealed Book of Saint John†, will be found to relate to the history of the kingdoms of this world: while the vision of the Four Beasts of Daniel‡, and the Little Opened

* Dan. ii. 31, 45.

† Rev. vi. to x.

‡ Dan. vii.

Book of Saint John *, relate chiefly to the history of the Church ; being principally occupied by the account of the Papacy. In these two histories of the World and of the Church, the time subsequent to the rise of the Roman Empire is divided into three periods ; and the last periods in both histories will be found to synchronize.

The periods in the history of the **ROMAN EMPIRE** may be called,

First, the **PERIOD** of its **STRENGTH** as a republic, and under its emperors.

Secondly, the **PERIOD** of its **WEAKNESS**, when divided into ten kingdoms.

Thirdly, the **PERIOD** of its **DESTRUCTION**.

The three successive periods in the history of the **CHURCH**, during the same space of time, are those in which it is opposed by its three great enemies, the **PAGAN**, **PAPAL**, and **INFIDEL POWERS**.

The period of Destruction in the history of the Empire, is the same as the period of Infidelity in the history of the Church ; the last periods in each synchronizing.

THE TEMPORAL KINGDOM OF CHRIST is also described as succeeding to the kingdoms of this world.

* Rev. xi. to xxi.

Its history divides likewise into three periods, which may be called those of its COMMENCEMENT, PROGRESS, and PERFECTION. The first, or that of its Commencement, synchronizes with the period in which the Empire is Destroyed, and consequently with that of Infidelity in the history of the Church.

Before I proceed to arrange the different prophecies according to the scheme here proposed, it will be desirable that I should bring forward some arguments to prove that the vision of the Great Image of Daniel and the Sealed Book of Saint John relate solely to the kingdoms of this world; and in the event to the *temporal* kingdom of Christ: and that the vision of the Four Beasts of Daniel, and the Little Opened Book of Saint John, relate principally to the history of the *Church*; and ultimately to its triumphant and universal establishment.

On a cursory examination of these prophecies it will be evident, that the first part of the vision of the Great Image does *not* include any thing relating to the *Church**: and it is to be observed, that when the Kingdom of Christ is afterwards introduced into the vision, it is spoken of only as a *temporal* kingdom; for the stone is represented as breaking in pieces the

* Dan. ii. 31—33 and 37—43.

ten toes of iron and clay * ; which description is intended to shew the destruction of the temporal power of the ten kingdoms of the divided Roman Empire : and by its afterwards increasing to a mountain, and filling the whole world †, is described the universal establishment of the same *temporal* kingdom of Christ upon earth, during the period of the Millennium.

On the other hand, the vision of the Four Beasts appears to relate principally to the history of the *Church* ; the kingdoms of this world, or the four Great Empires, being only spoken of as introductory to it : the chief subject of it is the persecution of the Saints by the Papal Power, (which is represented under the emblem of a little Horn) and the subsequent destruction of that power ‡. The terms used in this prophecy, in relation to the period of the Millennium, also shew, that the object of it is peculiarly the Church ; for it is spoken of as the period in which the Saints, or the *Church*, should possess the kingdom §. In comparing this description with that before given of the same period, in the vision of the Great Image, we may clearly perceive the different objects of these two prophecies.

In proceeding to inquire into the subjects of

* Dan. ii. 35. † Dan. ii. 34, 44.

‡ Dan. vii. 8. 20—26. § Dan. vii. 27.

the Sealed and Opened Book of St. John, I would observe, that the Sealed Book (consisting of chap. vi. to x. of Revelations) will be found hereafter, upon minute examination, to relate only to temporal concerns.

The Six first Seals will be found to relate to the Empire in its Western Branch, during its Two first Periods, and though these may seem to contain something relative to the Church, as we might discover from Rev. vi. 11, that the Church would be exposed, during the periods of these Seals, to two persecutions (the one Pagan, and the other Papal), it is to be observed, that these are not predicted or symbolically represented, but only alluded to, as being connected with the signal *temporal judgment* of the great Earthquake of the French Revolution, described in Rev. vi. 12: which *temporal judgment* was inflicted on account of these persecutions, and is in fact the only event mentioned as taking place upon earth during the whole period of the fifth and sixth Seals.

The Six first Trumpets will be found to relate to the Empire in its Eastern Branch during its Two first Periods, and here, under the third Trumpet, the introduction of false doctrines into the Greek Church is indeed actually represented under the figure of a Star falling upon the Rivers and Fountains of water, and

making them bitter* ; but this event is mentioned in the Sealed Book, only because it was intimately connected with the history of the *Empire*, laying the foundation for the prevalence of the Mahometan arms, which eventually caused its overthrow : so that we may here trace the same connexion between the introduction of false doctrines† into the Greek Church, spoken of upon the sounding of the third Trumpet, and the Woes that were afterwards inflicted by the Saracens and Turks, described under the fifth and sixth Trumpets, as we before observed in the history of the Western Branch of the Empire, between the persecutions of the Saints, referred to upon the opening of the fifth Seal, and the Judgment of the Earthquake of the sixth Seal, by which these persecutions were avenged.

Thus, from both these instances we find that, in the history of the Empire, as much of the history of the Church is introduced, as is inseparably connected with it : and in the history of the Church also, the kingdoms of this

* Rev. viii. 10, 11.

† These false doctrines are also alluded to by Daniel, when he speaks of the transgression which the Mahometan arms were raised up to chastise. “ And an host was given him” (*i. e.* to the Mahometan power) “ against the daily sacrifice, *by reason of transgression.*” Dan. viii. 12.

world are spoken of, as far as is necessary, for the purpose of introducing and explaining the subject treated of*; but still, each class of prophecy has its own peculiar and distinct object.

That the Little Opened Book of St. John (consisting of the eleventh and following chapters of Revelations) treats chiefly of the *Church*, and particularly of the remarkable period of the 1260 years, will clearly appear from the most cursory examination of it: I shall not therefore think it necessary in this place, to go over any part of its contents, especially as I shall have occasion to do so hereafter, in examining the plan and arrangement of the Apocalypse.

For one further and more particular proof, however, that the Sealed Book relates to the history of the Empire, and the Opened Book to the history of the Church, I refer to chap. vii. of Revelations, being a part of the Sealed Book, and to chap. xiv., being part of the Little Opened Book; and both relating to the same period (commencing in the year 1792).

A comparison between these two chapters will accurately point out the peculiar design of each book; for we shall find the same nation spoken of in each; and, in each clearly

* Dan. vii. 1—7, viii. 3—8.

under a different character: in the Sealed Book, as it stands related to the Empire, and in the Opened Book, as it stands related to the Church.

In the *Sealed Book* during the last period of the Empire, before the work of destruction commences, a people, represented under the emblem of the Israelitish nation, and called the Servants of God, are put under His protection, and sealed with His seal: that the temporal judgments about to be sent upon the earth, might not come nigh them*. The Protestant nation is introduced here in its *national* capacity, as one of the ten kingdoms of the divided Roman Empire; and is here described as being preserved amidst the temporal judgments, by which the others are destroyed.

In the *Opened Book*, chap. xiv. 1—5; and chap. xv. 2—4, the same people, or the Protestant nation, is again introduced, and during the same period as before, namely, that in which the last judgments are inflicted upon the Western and Eastern branches of the Empire, and upon the enemies of the Church; and we find them described in this place in their character as members of the true *Church*, and as triumphing in the destruction of its enemies†.

* Rev. vii. 1—4. See also Article ISRAELITISH NATION, in the Symbolical Dictionary.

† Rev. xiv. 4.

The purity of their religious profession, and their having “the first” forsaken the Papal superstition (while the other nine nations of the divided Roman Empire remained under its influence), is also mentioned; and they are represented as glorifying God, in this eventful period, for the manifestation of His judgments in the world. In all these particulars they appear as connected with the history of the *Church*; they sing, likewise, a “new song,” which is represented on a former occasion, as part of the employment of the Living Creatures and Elders, or of the Church in Heaven*. And it is before, or in the presence of these, that the Israelitish nation are represented as singing this song of triumph; implying, that they are thus employed in their characters as *members of the Church* on earth.

In comparing the descriptions given of the future state of the blessed in each book, we shall still find some reference to a distinction between the subjects of which they particularly treat (although during this period, the histories of the empire and of the church may be considered as united), for the principal description given of this period, in the sealed book, is, that the *throne* of God should be with men,

* Rev. v. 9. See also article, The LIVING CREATURES, &c. in the Symbolical Dictionary.

and that he should rule* his people ; while in the opened book, the *Church*, or the new Jerusalem, is principally spoken of, its description occupying nearly the whole of chap. xxi.

The distinction between the subjects of these books, as relating severally to the Empire and to the Church, we shall find also to pervade the descriptions which are given in each of the transactions in heaven.

For, preparatory to the entering upon the prophetic parts of his narrative, St. John describes the Living Creatures, and the Elders of the church, as standing near the throne of God, and the Angels as surrounding them† : and when our Saviour, who appears as a Lamb that had been slain, receives the book of prophecy to open it, the Church first, and then the Angels, fall down and worship him ; the Church ascribing praise to him as their Redeemer, and the Angels ascribing power, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing, to him as their King‡. Christ is here represented as receiv-

* The word rendered, in our translation of Revelations vii. 17, “ to *Feed*,” frequently signifies to *Rule* or *Govern*, in its most unlimited sense ; it is the same word that is found in Rev. xix. 15, where it is said that Christ should “ smite the nations with a sharp sword,” and “ *Rule* them with a rod of iron ;” and which occurs again in the same sense, in Rev. ii. 27, and xii. 5.

† Rev. iv. and v.

‡ Rev. v. 8—14.

ing the adoration both of the Church and of the Angels; of the one, as the Head of the Church, and of the other, as the Creator and Governor of the World; for the book about to be opened contains the histories of each*. But when the prophecy commences, it is observable, that during the events of the larger or Sealed Book, though the Church is represented as present, the ascriptions of praise are made by the Angels alone† as ministers of his power; for the events relate to the kingdoms of this world, and to Christ as King; whereas, during the events of the Little Opened Book, these ascriptions are made by the Church, while the Angels are not mentioned as uniting in them‡; for the contents of this Book relate to the Church, and to Christ as its head. The circumstance is remarkable, and has been noticed by former commentators, who have not, how-

* The Little Book was included in the Larger Book, for it related to the same period; the opening of the Seven Seals, opened the whole period of time from the reign of Constantine the Great, to the end of all things, though the events thus revealed are separately detailed in three several histories, as relating to the two Branches of the Empire and to the Church; when the history of the Church is therefore introduced, it appears contained in a little book or codicil "that has been opened."

† Rev. vii. 11.

‡ Rev. xi. 16, and xix. 4.

ever; been able to offer any explanation*; nor does it appear easy to find one, unless that be admitted as satisfactory which is here proposed.

A further proof of a marked distinction between the two classes of Prophecies, is derived from their first periods being different the one from the other; for were we to attempt to divide the Sealed Book, containing the history of the Empire, so as to correspond with the termination of the first period, or the commencement of the second period of the 1260 years, in the history of the Church, the division (as will appear when we proceed to the minute interpretation of each prophecy) would fall between the third and fourth Seals, where there is no natural division pointed out; but where, on the contrary, it would divide the four homogenous symbols of the Four Horsemen, seated on various coloured horses. A similar observation applies to the vision of the Great Image of Daniel, whose first period (*i. e.*, of the legs of Iron) I consider as cotemporary with that of the Four Horsemen in Saint John.

There is one striking proof which may yet be given, of the correctness of the general theory I have adopted, derived from shewing

* See Whiston on the Revelation of St. John.

that the Apocalypse of St. John, in the interpretation of which commentators have so much differed, falls in immediately with it, in the natural order of the chapters. For this purpose, we shall go over, in a cursory manner, the contents of each chapter, in the order in which they stand; and we shall find, as will be confirmed by the more minute investigation of it hereafter, that the Temporal History of the Western Branch of the Roman Empire is first given, as divided into three periods, and brought to a conclusion, when the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, which succeeds to it, is spoken of, before another subject is admitted. After this, there is a pause in the representation, intimating the commencement of a new series of Prophecy; and the Temporal History of the Eastern Branch of the Empire, divided also into three periods, is next begun, and brought to a conclusion.

Then follows, lastly, the history of the Church, with an intimation, that the order of prophecy is again about to commence; and this is brought down as divided into three periods, to the termination of its militant state, or to the final Destruction of its enemies. The progress and triumphant establishment of the Church of Christ upon earth, are next described, then the day of the last judgment, and finally the future

happy state of the blessed, with an account of which the book closes.

The arrangement of the Apocalypse, thus understood, is perfectly simple, and we shall have occasion to admire the manner in which it is written, that not only new subjects are introduced by intimations that the order of Prophecy is on the point of commencing afresh, but at the conclusion of each history, the same events appear to be purposely spoken of in similar language, to shew where the different periods in the History of the Church and of the Empire synchronize.

In commencing the examination proposed, I would observe, that the prophetic part of this Book begins with the sixth chapter, which contains, under the four first homogenous Seals, the history of the first period of the Roman Empire, properly so called, viz., the Western Branch of the Roman Empire. This first period here described, is the Period of its Strength, while under its Emperors.

The two next Seals occupy the second period, or that of its Weakness, while divided into ten kingdoms; this period ends with a Great Earthquake under the Sixth Seal, which immediately precedes (as we learn from the verses that follow) the third period, or that of the Destruction of the Empire, described in the next

chapter, called also here, the Day of the Wrath of the Lamb* ; and in Isaiah, the Day of Vengeance of Christ, and the Year of his Redeemed.

Chap. vii. commences with an intimation that it succeeds to the period of time described in the foregoing chapters ; it relates, verses 1—8, to the same branch of the Empire during the Period of its Destruction, and of the Wrath of the Lamb ; yet it does not detail the effects of that wrath, but shews that one of the ten nations of the divided Western Roman Empire, as being under the peculiar protection of God, should be exempted from it.

The Seven Thunders in this History of the Empire (referring to the same events as the Seven Vials of Wrath in the History of the Church) could not now be introduced, though we have arrived at the period, in the order of time to which they relate, or that in which the Western Roman Empire is destroyed ; for the judgments of this period affect also the Eastern branch of the Empire, and the apostate Church ; but the histories of these last have not yet been given, which must first be separately related, before the judgments which are common to them all can be declared.

* Rev. vi. 17.

It is because the account of the destruction of the Empire is not yet to be noticed that the opening of the Seventh Seal is not stated at the commencement of this chapter to usher in the Period ; for, had it been said, as in former cases, “ The Seal was opened,” we should have expected of course, that what followed would be the peculiar subject of that Seal, in which we should have been deceived ; for the principal events of the Seventh and last Seal relate to the Destruction of the Empire, which could not, for the reasons stated, be yet spoken of.

The History is carried on in the remainder of this chapter to the end of all things, as appears from comparing verses 15, 16, 17, with the description of the future state of the blessed, contained in chap. xxi. 3, 4, for in both chapters the same expression is used, that God should dwell with men.—In the Sealed Book it is said, that his Throne should be with men, or that he should “ dwell among them” as their King ; and in the Opened Book, that his Tabernacle should be with men, or that he should “ dwell with them” as head of the Church.—With this chapter terminates the History of the Western Branch of the Empire.

Chap. viii. begins with an intimation, that the period of the Seventh and last Seal is passed ; and then there succeeds a pause in

the representation, intimating that the Seven Seals having been opened, the Apostle St. John was about to begin a new series of Prophecy, and to detail, in the periods of the Seven Trumpets, the corresponding History of the Eastern Branch of the Empire. This chapter contains, verses 3—5, a general introduction to the subject of the Seven Trumpets, and a summary account of them, referring to a most important event, which will take place in the period of the Seventh, namely, to the second and last Great Earthquake of the Apocalypse, which is accompanied by voices, and thunderings, and lightnings. Verse 6—end, contains an account of the four first Trumpets, and gives the History of the Eastern Branch of the Empire in its first period, describing various events which took place during the reign of the Emperors.

Chap. ix. contains an account of the Fifth and Sixth Trumpets, or the first and second Woe-Trumpets, which relate to the Eastern Branch of the Empire during its Second Period, while desolated by the Saracens and Turks.

Chap. x. relates to the Eastern Branch of the Empire during its third and last period: the seven Thunders, or Declarations of Wrath, which occupy this period, are heard by St.

John ; but the sounding of the Seventh Trumpet, which refers to the whole period of the Thunders, and which, according to the regular order of the Prophecy, should have announced them, is not here mentioned ; the reason of this is, that they are the same as the Seven Vials of Wrath, containing the Seven last Plagues, afterwards introduced ; which affect, at once, each Branch of the Empire, and the Apostate Church ; but the history of the Church has not yet been heard ; the sounding of the Seventh Trumpet, announcing the destruction common to all, is therefore not yet made known ; and that which the voices of the Seven Thunders uttered, is directed to be concealed, in order that it may be revealed in its proper place, or when the History of the Church in its First Periods has been related.

We find that the circumstances connected with the introduction of the Seventh Trumpet are similar to those of the Seventh Seal, for the period to which they both allude is to be noticed, but the principal events which passed in this period, to be concealed : and here there appears a beautiful variety in the method by which the same end is attained ; in the case of the Seventh Seal we have seen, that other events*, not immediately connected with the

* See Rev. vii. 1—8.

principal subject of it, but taking place at the same time, were introduced to fill up the period; and after they were passed it was intimated, that the period of the Seventh Seal was passed: in the case of the Seventh Trumpet, the seven successive judgments, which are the chief events of this period, are made known to St. John by the voices of the Seven Thunders: but he is commanded to seal up that which they uttered, and not include it, as yet, in his Prophecy. In both cases, the period of time is noted, but information as to the *principal* events which passed in it is not prematurely given. With these Seven Thunders terminates the history of the Eastern Branch of the Empire.

Chap. xi. commences the history of the Church, containing part of the Little Opened Book, which, when St. John had received, as described in the preceding chapter, he was told he must prophesy *again*, or speak of the same periods in the history of the Church, which he had already gone over in the history of the Eastern and Western Branches of the Empire. This chapter notices (in verses 1 and 2) a general defection from spiritual worship, which should take place in the Visible Church, for a period of 1260 years. In verses 3—12, it mentions the disesteem in which the Word of

God, contained in the Old and New Testament, should be held during this period. In verse 13, the Earthquake of the Sixth Seal is again spoken of, and is introduced into this Little Book, relating to the Church, because it is equally a judgment on the nations, and on the Apostate Church; and is the forerunner of the series of judgments about to be inflicted upon both, during the last period of 30 years. After this, the sounding of the Seventh Trumpet, which refers to the same point of time as the opening of the Seventh Seal, is announced: for the history of the two first periods in the Western and Eastern Branches of the Empire having been before related, and the history of the Church being now brought down to the proper period, the Seventh Trumpet, which refers to all three, is at length said to sound; the Day of the Wrath of God to arrive; and, the Kingdoms of this world to become the Kingdoms of Christ. The eleventh chapter contains therefore an epitome of the whole history of the Church militant. The subsequent chapters of the Little Book only repeat this history, and enlarge on the events of its several periods.

Chap. xii. recommences the subject, containing the history of the Church during the latter part of its First Period, or that of Pa-

ganism, when it was persecuted by the Roman Empire under the influence of Satan, the God of Idolators.

Chap. xiii. succeeds, in the order of time, to the foregoing chapter; and contains the history of the Church during the Second Period, when it was persecuted by the Roman Empire, under the influence of the Papacy.

Chap. xiv. ver. 1—13. succeeds, in the order of time, and relates to the Third and last Period; representing chiefly the Protestant nation during the Period of Wrath; as glorifying God for His judgments upon the Papacy: ver. 14—end, relates to the judgments, which, during the same period, are inflicted upon the Papal nations; of which the last will be signally severe.

Chap. xv. and xvi. describe the same period; the Seven Vials of Wrath are poured out, containing the Seven last Plagues, which are the same as the Seven Thunders, and are therefore referred to by the Seventh Seal, and the Seventh Trumpet; for they are the final judgments upon the Eastern and Western Branches of the Empire, and upon the Papacy; and also, in the end, upon the Infidel power.

Chap. xvii. and xviii. relate to the same period; and the Roman Empire is shewn (chap. xvii. ver. 1—6) under the influence of the Beast

out of the Bottomless Pit, or the Beast of Infidelity. The remainder of this chapter is occupied with the explanation of the Angel, respecting the Beast of Infidelity. Chap. xviii. contains the remainder of this period ; and continues the Vision from the 6th verse of the preceding chapter, describing the double fall of the Papacy.

Chap. xix. succeeds in the order of time, and describes (verses 1—8) the further period of 45 years, which, after the destruction of the Infidel Power and the Papacy, intervenes before the commencement of the Millennium. Verses 8—10, introduce the Millennium. Verses 11—20, refer to the last part of the period of 30 years ; and describe the last great battle, in which the Infidel Power and the Papacy are overthrown. And verse 21 gives an account of the subsequent complete annihilation of all the enemies of Christ.

Chap. xx. treats of the Millennium ; and reaches to the consummation of all things, and to the last judgment.

Chap. xxi. and xxii. describe the future state of the blessed.

We have thus, by a slight reference to the contents of each chapter of the Apocalypse, shewn that it contains, in regular order,—first, the history of the Western Branch of the Em-

pire, divided into the periods of the Seven Seals; then, the history of the Eastern Branch of the Empire, divided into the periods of the Seven Trumpets; and thirdly, the History of the Church; the last period of which is occupied with the pouring out of the Seven Vials of Wrath, by which its enemies are destroyed.

The commencement of each history, we have already shewn, is marked in the text, by an intimation that the order of prophecy is about to begin afresh; and we have now to shew, from notices also discoverable in the text, that these histories end together, or that the periods of the last Seal, and the last Trumpet, in the history of the Empire, and the period of the Seven Vials of Wrath, in that of the Church, synchronize.

In order to prove the synchronism of the last Seal and Trumpet, I would observe, that on the opening of the Sixth Seal, it is said, that "there was a great Earthquake," described in chap. vi. 12—14; and from the next verses 15—17, we learn, that this Earthquake is immediately followed by the Great Day of the Wrath of the Lamb.

Again, where the sounding of the *Seventh* Trumpet is mentioned, in chap. xi. 13—18, we find, that an Earthquake immediately *precedes* it; and that as soon as the Seventh Trumpet

sounds, the Day of the Wrath of God is said to be arrived, from which circumstances we draw the conclusion, that the period of the *Sixth Trumpet** contains the Earthquake, which is immediately followed by the Day of the Wrath of God; but the period of the Sixth Seal†, we have just seen, contains the same Earthquake: the periods of the Sixth Seal and the Sixth Trumpet therefore synchronize, both containing the same events.

The Sixth Seal in the history of the Western branch of the Empire, being thus proved to synchronize with the Sixth Trumpet in the history of the Eastern branch of the Empire, it follows, that the Seventh Seal also synchronizes with the Seventh Trumpet, or that these histories terminate together.

To prove that the period of the Seventh Trumpet synchronizes also with the last Period in the history of the Church, or that in which the Seven Vials of Wrath are described as being poured out, I would observe, that on the sounding of the *Seventh Trumpet*, “the Temple of God is opened in Heaven,” or the Holy of Holies is opened, and there is seen in his Temple the Ark of his Testament. There then follows the Second Earthquake of the Apocalypse;

* Rev. xi. 13. † vi. 12.

which is distinguished from the first by the "Great Hail," said to accompany it*.

In like manner, in the history of the Church, when *the pouring out of the Seven Vials of Wrath* is described, we find that the Temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in Heaven is opened†; and the seven Angels having these seven Vials come out from thence to pour them out upon the earth, and the effect produced by the seventh Vial is an Earthquake accompanied by a Great Hail. Thus we find that the periods of the Seventh Trumpet, and of the pouring out of the Seven Vials is the same; for during each, the *Tabernacle in Heaven is opened*, and each contains the *Second and Last Great Earthquake of the Apocalypse*, which is accompanied by a Great Hail.

The Seventh Seal has before been shewn to synchronize with the Seventh Trumpet; thus the Seventh Seal in the history of the Western Empire, the Seventh Trumpet in the history of the Eastern Empire, and the period of the Seven Vials of Wrath in the history of the Church, synchronize, and these histories terminate together; and the proofs of these synchronisms are the more satisfactory, as they are founded on a reference to the simple language

* Rev. xi. 19.

† Rev. xv. 5, 6.

of the text, considered independently of any interpretation that may be given to the symbols.

The natural arrangement of the prophecies of Daniel and St. John into two classes, as relating to the Empire and to the Church, and the division of the history of each, into three periods of time, having been thus established by a cursory examination of the prophetic writings, and especially of the Apocalypse of St. John, which, taken in the regular order of the chapters, points out such an arrangement: I now proceed, in compliance with our first rule, to class the various prophecies according to the plan thus established, so as to bring into one point of view all those relating to the same period.

In arranging the different prophecies according to their several periods, it will be found that I shall follow the natural order of the text; and that this arrangement will therefore be made in a great degree upon a consideration of the text as unconnected with its interpretation: but that so important a part of the plan may be the more intelligible, I shall give the supposed date of each period, and upon mentioning the prophecies belonging to each period, I shall add a brief intimation of the subjects to which they relate.

The Roman Empire in the PERIOD OF ITS

STRENGTH, before the reign of its emperors terminated, or its complete division into ten kingdoms, took place, is spoken of in the vision of the Great Image of Daniel in the first clause of verse 33, chap. ii., in this brief description, "his legs of iron."—It is during this period in Esdras's vision of the Great Eagle, that the "twelve Feathered Wings," and "the Feathers which followed*," are said to reign, under which symbolical representations are described the reigns of the twelve Cæsars, and the foreign Roman Emperors who succeeded them.—This period comprehends also the events of the four first homogenous Seals†, and the four first Trumpets‡ of the Sealed Book of St. John, which run parallel to one another, each Seal to its corresponding Trumpet¶ : the Seals when

* II. Esd. xi. 12—21. † Rev. vi. 1—8. ‡ Rev. viii.

¶ It is to be understood that the whole time of the Roman Empire, from the year 330 (the date of the removal of the seat of Empire to Constantinople) to the end, is divided into the periods of seven Seals (to which the periods of the seven Trumpets are parallel), each period therefore must embrace a large space of time: the symbolical description in each may, however, refer only to some principal event which took place in it; it is not meant, therefore, that the *actions* represented in the parallel Seal and Trumpet are cotemporary, but that their *periods* are so; that is, that the action of the first Trumpet will be over before the action of the second Seal commences; and the action of the second Trumpet will be

opened, representing all the Roman Emperors in four classes, and in the characters in which they appeared as connected with the Western Empire; and the Trumpets announcing the events of the Eastern Empire, during the same period.—This period is supposed to end about the year 606.

The Empire in the PERIOD OF ITS WEAKNESS, when divided into ten kingdoms, is described in the vision of the Great Image of Daniel, in the latter clause of verse 33, chap. ii., in these words, “his feet and toes, part of iron and part of clay;” the ten toes representing ten kingdoms, of which some are strong, and others weak.—This period of the Empire is occupied in Esdras’s vision of the Great Eagle by the description of the “Eight Contrary Feathers,” that “became little Feathers and small,” and the three great Heads of the Eagle, while in a dormant state*: these emblems representing the same number of ten kingdoms, of which three are strong and tyrannical, and seven weak, for although *eight* little feathers are spoken of, two of these will be found to re-

over before the action of the third Seal commences, and so with the rest.—See the Prophetic Chart, in which the dates inserted under each Seal and Trumpet, are those of the *principal actions* that took place in each period.

* II. Esd. xi. 3, 4, 11, 22—24.

present only one of the minor kingdoms, which is a united kingdom, composed of two parts. —This period comprehends in the Sealed Book of Saint John the events of the fifth and sixth Seals* relating to the Western Roman empire, and those of the fifth and sixth Trumpets, called the first and second Woe-Trumpets†, relating to the Eastern Roman empire. The sixth Seal describes the French Revolution being the last and principal event which took place in the Western Roman empire during the Period of its Weakness; and the fifth and sixth Trumpets announce the desolation of the Eastern Roman empire during the same period, by the Saracens and Turks.—This period is supposed to extend from about the year 606 to the year 1792.

The PERIOD of the DESTRUCTION of the empire is in the vision of the Great Image of Daniel, the period during which the Stone is said to smite upon the feet and toes of the Image to break them to pieces‡.—It is during this period that, in the vision of the Great Eagle of Esdras, four of the little under feathers are said to perish, and the three Great Heads of the Eagle, which “are to be preserved for the last,” are said successively to awake and reign with

* Rev. vi. 9—17.

† Rev. ix.

‡ Dan. ii. 34.

much tyranny and oppression, and to be themselves destroyed*.—This period, as described in the Sealed Book of Saint John, is occupied by the seven Thunders, or declarations of wrath †, affecting both the Eastern and Western branches of the empire.—The seventh chapter of Revelations, being a part of the Sealed Book, refers also to this period; describing the preservation of one of the nations of the divided Roman empire from those judgments by which all the rest are to be destroyed: this nation is emblematically represented as the Israelitish nation.—This period is supposed to extend from the year 1792 to the latter end of the year 1822, or to the commencement of the year 1823.

Having thus selected the prophecies relating to the Empire in its Western and Eastern branches, and divided them according to the three several periods of time to which they refer, I now proceed to class, in like manner, those which belong to the history of the Church.

THE REIGN OF PAGANISM is referred to in the vision of the Four Beasts of Daniel by the description given of the Fourth Beast, as it existed prior to the rise of the little Papal horn‡. —In the twelfth chapter of the Revelations,

* II. Esd. xi. 25 to the end. † Rev. x. 3. ‡ Dan. vii. 7.

containing a part of the Little Opened Book of Saint John, the seven heads and ten horns of the Roman empire are described as being, during this period, under the influence and direction of the Great Red Dragon, “called the Devil;” the great promoter of idolatry; who in fact was himself worshipped, in the adoration paid to the heathen idols.—This period is supposed to extend to March, 533.

The REIGN OF POKERY is predicted in Daniel’s vision of the Four Beasts, where it is said, “that the Saints should be given into the hands of the little Papal horn for a time and times, and the dividing of time,” or for 1260 natural years*.—In the Little Opened Book of Saint John, it is the period of the forty-two prophetic months, or 1260 natural years, during which the ten-horned Beast, or the Roman empire, is described as being under the influence of the two-horned Beast, or the Papacy†.—It is also the same period of 1260 prophetic days, or natural years, during which the two Witnesses are said to prophesy, clothed in sackcloth‡: or the Old and New Testaments to be held in disesteem by the Papists.—It is likewise the same period of “a time, and times,” and “half a time,” or 1260 natural years, during

* Dan. vii. 8 and 25.

† Rev. xiii.

‡ Rev. xi. 3.

which the Woman is said to be nourished in the wilderness*: or the true Church to be secretly sustained; though in barrenness and obscurity.—It is also the same period of 42 prophetic months, or 1260 natural years, during which the Outer Court of the Temple is given to be trodden under foot of the Gentiles†: or the visible Church is permitted to be overrun by the Papists.—This period is supposed to extend from March, 533, to 10th August, 1792.

The PERIOD of the REIGN OF INFIDELITY in the history of the Church (being the same as that of the destruction of the empire) is the period of the 30 years discoverable in the last chapter of Daniel: or the difference between the two periods there mentioned of 1260 years, and 1290 years‡.—In the vision of the Four Beasts, it is during this period that the judgment is said to sit upon the little Papal horn to take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end§.—It is also during this period that the body of the Beast or Roman empire is destroyed¶.—The reign of the Infidel King, described in the eleventh chapter of Daniel, verse 21—end, also occupies this period.—In Esdras, this is the time of the reign of the “Horrible Star,” who besieges and over-

* Rev. xii. 6.

† Rev. xi. 2.

‡ Dan. xii. 7—11.

§ Dan. vii. 26.

¶ Dan. vii. 9—11.

throws “Babylon*.”—The period also includes the event of the final destruction, in the Holy Land†, of the enemies of the Church, as described in the thirteenth chapter of Esdras. —The seventeenth chapter of the Revelations, being a part of the Little Opened Book of Saint John, comprehends this period, describing the seven heads and ten horns of the Roman empire, as under the influence of the Beast of Infidelity that rises out of the bottomless pit; who is also in succession the seventh and eighth head or ruler of the Roman empire‡.—The fourteenth chapter of Revelations also belongs to this period; where the Protestant nation, emblematically represented as the Israelitish nation, is again spoken of during the same period as that in which it had been introduced in the history of the Western branch of the Roman empire; and is here described as rejoicing in the destruction of the enemies of the Church.—It is also during this period that the seven Vials of Wrath are poured out§, producing the same events in the history of the Church as are announced by the seven Thunders in the history of the Empire; and affecting the whole prophetic earth.—The whole of the eighteenth chapter and

* II. Esd. xv. 40-45. † Esd. xiii. Dan. xi. 45, Rev. xix. 11-20.

‡ Rev. xvii. 11.

§ Rev. xv. xvi.

chap. xix. 11—20, likewise refer to this period; the former describing the first destruction of Babylon or the Papal power, and the latter, the destruction of the Infidel power, and also the complete and final destruction of the Papacy. And with this chapter terminates every thing in the Revelations belonging to the Roman empire; and to the militant state of the Church.

The PERIOD of the COMMENCEMENT of the TEMPORAL KINGDOM of CHRIST is the same as the period of the destruction of the Empire, and of the reign of Infidelity; and is in Daniel's vision of the Great Image (or in the temporal history of the world) the period of the reign of the Stone, during which those that remain of the ten kingdoms of the divided Roman Empire, are broken to pieces*. In the vision of the Four Beasts relating to the Church, it is the period during which the thrones are set in Heaven (for those who have suffered martyrdom in the cause of Christ), and the Papacy, the great enemy of the Church, is judged, consumed, and destroyed†.—In Saint John, it is the period during which those who have suffered martyrdom for the sake of Christ, and have been received into Heaven, rule the nations with a rod of iron, according to that promise made by

* Dan. ii. 34.

† Dan. vii. 9, 26.

Christ to his Church: “ He that overcometh
 “ and keepeth my words, to him will I give
 “ power over the nations, and he shall rule
 “ them with a rod of iron : as the vessels of a
 “ potter shall they be broken to shivers ; even
 “ as I received of my Father*.”—It is also the
 period in which the Holy of Holies is opened ;
 that the Angels who inflict the seven last
 plagues may go out from thence to pour them
 out upon the earth. During this period the ark
 of the testament of God, which was placed
 there, is seen†, for his judgments are made
 manifest‡, and the joint reign of Christ and of
 his Saints commences. The events of this pe-
 riod are also foretold in the second psalm, when
 it is said that Christ should “ rule the nations
 “ with a rod of iron, and break them in pieces
 “ like a potter’s vessel.”—This period is also
 “ referred to by Isaiah, when he speaks of the
 “ day of vengeance” of Christ, and the “ year
 “ of his redeemed§.—This period being the
 same as the period of the Destruction of the
 Empire, will terminate A. D. 1822-3.

The PERIOD of the PROGRESS of the KING-
 DOM of CHRIST succeeds immediately to the
 period of the reign of the stone, or to the pe-

* Rev. ii. 26, 27, xii. 5.

† Rev. xi. 19.

‡ Rev. xv. 4.

§ Isai. lxiii. 4, Joel. ii. 31.

riod of 30 years, during which the destruction of the Roman empire takes place; and commences with the restoration of the Jews, and of the other ten tribes of Israel*; by whose means the kingdom of Christ will be principally advanced.—In Daniel's vision of the Great Image, it is during this period that the stone becomes a great mountain†.—This is the period of 45 years, the difference between the two periods of 1290 and 1335 years mentioned in the last chapter of Daniel‡: after which a state of universal blessedness succeeds.—From Daniel's vision of the Ram and He-goat, relating to the corruptions of Mahometanism, we may learn, that this superstition will be entirely removed from the Eastern Church, or the “sanctuary will be cleansed,” at 2400 years§ from the year A. C. 553, being the “third year of Belshazzar,” king of Babylon¶; in which year the vision was seen: We find therefore that in the year 1847, *i. e.*, at the end of the first 25 years of

* II. Esd. xiii. 39—50. See also Rev. xvi. 12.

† Dan. ii. 35.

‡ Dan. xii. 11, 12.

§ The common version of our Bible reads 2300 years, the Septuagint 2400: the course of events has proved the former to be incorrect; the latter corresponds with the other periods of Daniel, dividing his last period of 45 years' Progress of the Gospel into two periods of 25 and 20 years each,

¶ Dan. viii. 1—14.

the period now under consideration, all nations professing the Mahometan Religion, will be brought into the Church: we may conclude that the remaining 20 years of this period will be occupied in completing the conversion of the Chinese, and Indian Pagan nations, and of the whole world.—It is during this period of 45 years that the Bride or the Church is said by Saint John to make herself ready for the marriage*.—The termination of this period will be A. D. 1867.

The PERIOD of the PERFECTION of CHRIST'S KINGDOM during the MILLENNIUM, is in the vision of the Great Image of Daniel (containing the temporal history of the world), the period when the stone, now become a mountain, fills the whole earth†. In the vision of the Four Beasts relating to the history of the Church, the Saints are said to possess the kingdom during this period‡. It is at the commencement of this period that the first resurrection takes place§, as described by Saint John, and the marriage of the Lamb¶, which events are followed by the reign of Christ with his Saints upon earth, during a period of a thousand years.

* Rev. xix. 7. † Dan. ii. 35. ‡ Dan. vii. 18.

§ Rev. xx. 4.

¶ Rev. xix. 7—9.

Observations on the Arrangement of the Apocalypse adopted by former Commentators.

In pursuance of the plan I have laid down, not to advance any thing new without a reference to the opinions of those who have before written on the same subject, I ought in this place to consider the arrangement of the Apocalypse adopted by former commentators.

The Apocalypse consists, as is allowed by all, of a series of seven Seals, and of seven Trumpets; of a little separate Book or Codicil, and of a series of seven Vials; the series of seven Seals being more particularly divided between the sixth and seventh, as is also the series of the seven Trumpets; and the little separate Book, containing a remarkable period of 1260 years.

In order to obtain the true interpretation of the Apocalypse, it must be previously necessary to understand in what way these several parts are connected with each other. This inquiry is a subject perfectly distinct from the interpretation of the prophecies, and is confined to the discovery of *notices in the text*, pointing out these connexions.

The remarks of Whiston on this subject, in his Essay on the Revelations, written in the year 1706, are so excellent, that I cannot forbear giving an extract from it of some length.

He thus commences the Second Part of his work, containing his minute interpretation of the prophecies.

“ Having already laid down and established
“ the principal foundations necessary to be
“ known, before we can at all understand the
“ particular prophecies of this book, and hav-
“ ing withal settled the order and series of all
“ its visions from characters fetched only from
“ the book itself, or from the parallel book of
“ Daniel, without any dependence on particu-
“ lar hypotheses and applications (which indeed
“ ought not to be at all allowed any place there),
“ I am prepared to attempt a short view of the
“ visions and prophecies themselves. But
“ before I proceed, the reader must give me
“ leave to say somewhat about that *grand rule*
“ *of interpretation* just now hinted, which is of
“ so great importance to the right understand-
“ ing of this book ; and the neglect whereof I
“ look upon to have been the general occasion
“ of almost all the errors of expositors, one
“ way or other : I mean, that the order of all
“ the visions is to be wholly taken from the
“ intrinsic characters of the book itself, and not
“ at all to be conformed to any particular hypo-
“ theses or explications, and that from such an
“ order first established, all the certainty and
“ evidence of future applications is to be de-
“ rived ; and without such order so established,

“all expositions must be precarious and uncertain, and only depend on the fancy and imagination of every commentator. This was the great Mr. Mede’s settled and constant judgment in this matter ; and his attempt being built on this method, had such vast and unexpected success, that the body of the Protestant churches have generally declared themselves satisfied in the greatest part of his foundations laid down in his *Clavis Apocalyptica*, and I can add with Monsieur Jurieu, that his works of this kind have ever charmed me, and that I can find nothing like them in all the other Expositors, and I take the true reason to be (besides his extraordinary judgment in the Scripture in general, his impartiality, and the extraordinary blessing of God upon his labours), that he laid the foundation right by the exact observance of this method, as far as possibly he could ; and that he would not venture a particular application of any visions, till by the demonstration of his *synchronisms* he had fixed the order and series of them all beforehand ; and it is to be lamented, that his example has never since been rightly followed by any.”

The principal discovery of Mr. Mede, relative to the arrangement of the Apocalypse, was the synchronism between the termination of the

period of the sixth Trumpet in the Sealed Book, and the period of 1260 years in the Opened Book ; in other points his arrangement seems to have been defective, for he neither considered the Seals and Trumpets as running parallel to each other, nor the seven Vials as being subdivisions of the seventh Trumpet ; the latter defect in his plan was corrected by Whiston, who clearly proved all the seven Vials to be included in the seventh Trumpet ; the arrangement of Mede, thus improved by Whiston, has been, I apprehend, that most generally adopted by all commentators since his time, and was as follows : first, the seven Seals ; secondly, the seven Trumpets, being supposed subdivisions of the last Seal ; and thirdly, the seven Vials of Wrath, being subdivisions of the seventh Trumpet.—The termination of the period of 1260 years, contained in the Little Opened Book, synchronizing with the division between the sixth and seventh Trumpets.

The erroneous idea that the seven Trumpets were contained in the seventh Seal, arose from the description of the sounding of these Trumpets following immediately the mention of the opening of the seventh Seal* ; it not being understood that the opening of the seventh Seal was here mentioned at the end, and not,

* Rev. viii. 1 and 6.

as is the case with every other Seal, at the beginning of its period; the reason of which singular circumstance has already been explained*. And the true meaning of the Silence of half an Hour, which intervenes before the sounding of the Trumpets †, and intimates a break in the order of prophecy, and a recommencement of the subject from the earliest period, being overlooked.

The proof that the seven Vials are subdivisions of the seventh Trumpet, is shewn by Whiston nearly in the same manner as in the preceding pages of this work ‡.

The synchronism between the end of the period of the 1260 years, and the termination of the period of the sixth Trumpet (or, what is the same thing, the first sounding of the seventh), is thus stated by him in his 15th proposition;

“ The six first Seals, and the six first Trumpets are all over *before* the end of the 1260 years of Antichrist’s reign; and the seventh Trumpet or seven Vials contained in it, follow immediately *after* that time, and are cotemporary with the first ages of Our Saviour’s Kingdom succeeding to it.”

* See page 23, first paragraph. † Rev. viii. 1 and 2.

‡ See page 31—32.

He speaks with truth of this synchronism, as including the main and almost only connexion between the two systems of the Sealed and Opened Books, and denominates it “the greatest instance of divine art and surprising contrivance” of the whole book ; the proof of it is two-fold, the synchronism being marked in each book ; in the Sealed Book by the mention of the period of the 1260 years, which belongs to the Opened Book, and which is introduced into the Sealed Book in that solemn and awful declaration of the angel, that when the *seventh Trumpet* “shall begin to sound, *the mystery of God**,” or *this period of 1260 years*, “should be finished,” and again in the Opened Book by the mention of the seventh Trumpet †, which belongs to the Sealed Book, and which is introduced into the Opened Book, when, after the Earthquake, which terminates *the period of the 1260 years*’ prophesying of the Witnesses, it is said that *the Seventh Trumpet* sounds. Whiston justly remarks, that it is worthy of observation, that the Seventh Trumpet, which belongs to the Sealed Book, should be here introduced *out of its place*, in order to point out the synchronism, and calls this synchronism (of the termination of the period of the 1260 years, with the termination of the period of the Sixth

* Rev. x. 7.

† Rev. xi. 15.

Trumpet, or the commencement of the seventh)
 “ the principal *joint*, or most eminent *hinge* on
 “ which the whole order and series of the
 “ visions of the Apocalypse does depend.”

Mr. Faber’s plan, which I will now consider, varies from this of Whiston ; for continuing an interpretation of the older commentators, that *the period of the 1260 years of the Papacy* ought to be dated from the year 606, and would therefore terminate in the year 1866 ; he at the same time introduces an interpretation (and I am fully satisfied a correct one), that the period of *the Seventh Trumpet* commenced in the year 1792. These *two* opinions however cannot be both held without violating the established synchronism of the first sounding of the Seventh Trumpet, and of the expiration of the period of the 1260 years, the last being made, by these interpretations, not to take place till 74 years after the former : this difference of 74 years is considered by Mr. Faber to be filled up by the pouring out of the six first Vials, the period of the 1260 years being supposed by him to extend nearly to the end of the Seventh Trumpet, and to terminate between the sixth and seventh Vials* ; but in this arrange-

* See Table in page 78, explanatory of Mr. Faber’s Arrangement of the Apocalypse.

ment it seems evident, that Mr. Faber has not sufficiently attended to what Whiston calls the “ *grand rule of interpretation*,” viz., “ that we “ should not venture a particular application “ of any visions, till by the demonstration of “ *synchronisms* the order and series of them has “ been *fixed before-hand* ;” for in his plan we find that the “ main synchronism, the principal *joint*, and most eminent *hinge*, on which “ the whole order and series of the visions of “ the Apocalypse does depend,” has been violated, though Whiston considers it as proved by “ words which are of themselves too plain to “ admit any evasion.

The text, Rev. x. 7, by which Mede and Whiston consider this synchronism as established, is as follows : “ But in the days of the “ voice of the seventh Angel, *when he shall “ begin to sound*, the Mystery of God should be “ finished ;” but this text is considered by Mr. Faber to imply only “ that the Mystery of God (or the mysterious period of the 1260 years) “ should be finished in the days of the voice of “ the seventh Angel, *in the course of the period during which he should be sounding his “ trumpet*,” and he considers it as “ left wholly “ undeterminable by this passage, in what particular part of this period the Mystery was to “ be finished ; whether at the beginning, in the

“ middle, or at the end of it *.” He therefore fixes the termination of the Mystery nearly at the end of the period of the Seventh Trumpet, that is, between its sixth and seventh subdivisions.

The passage as it stands in our version—the translation given in the learned work of Archdeacon Woodhouse, which is as follows, “ In the days of the voice of the seventh Angel, when he is about to sound, and the mystery of God was finished,” or that given even by Mr. Faber himself, in support of his hypothesis, “ that the mystery of God should be finished in the days of the voice of the seventh Angel, when it is about to be that he should sound,” appear however to me to be all equally irreconcilable with his idea, that it will terminate *towards the end of the period of the sounding* of the seventh Trumpet.

Mr. Faber, in support of his opinion, that the period of the 1260 years terminates *between the periods of the sixth and seventh Vials*, refers to the following text, Rev. xvi. 17, “ And the seventh Angel poured out his Vial into the air, and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven from the throne, saying, It is done.” These words “ *It is done,*” Mr. Faber supposes to imply, that the period of the 1260 years then expires.

* Faber's Dissertation, vol. i. p. 53. 4 edit.

But, as I can by no means understand this expression as referring either to the *expiration of the period of the 1260 years*, or to the *commencement* of the period of the seventh Vial, I consider it as totally incompetent to prove their synchronism.

With respect to the first idea, that of its referring to the expiration of the 1260 years, I must observe, that this voice is heard when *the last of those seven judgments*, by which the Papal nations and the Papacy are destroyed, is inflicted; it does not therefore refer to the first expiration of the 1260 years mentioned by Daniel as the duration of the prosperous state of the Papacy, but to the *last act* of the subsequent period (of 30 years) during which “they take away its dominion, to consume and destroy it to the end.”

With regard to the second idea, I would say, that the expression must naturally be considered as referring to the *effect* of the judgment then inflicted by the pouring out of the seventh Vial; and therefore relates not to the *commencement* of the period of the seventh Vial, but to the *termination* of it.

The other argument, adduced by Mr. Faber in support of his hypothesis, being grounded on what I consider to be an erroneous interpretation of Dan. xi. 31, and xii. 11, will not come

under consideration in this place, where I am only to consider the plan and arrangement of the Apocalypse as shewn by *notices in the text*, considered as unconnected with any interpretation.

In Mr. Cuninghame's arrangement of the Seals, Trumpets, and Vials, and of the period of the 1260 years, the period of the seven Trumpets is made in some measure synchronical with that of the Seals* ; but instead of making the period of each Seal tally with the period of its corresponding Trumpet, he considers the period of the *six* first Seals as equal to the period of the *seven* Trumpets, the sixth Seal being supposed to extend to the same point of time as the seventh Trumpet. The seventh Seal is also supposed to include the periods of all the seven Trumpets, recommencing a new Series of Prophecy from the earliest times : but the incongruity of making the Seal, which is last in the whole series, thus refer to the earliest events in the order of the prophecy, is evident, and has already been clearly pointed out by Mr. Faber in the Appendix to his Dissertation, when examining the plan of the work of Archdeacon Woodhouse, into which a similar arrangement

* See Table in page 79, explanatory of Mr. Cuninghame's Arrangement of the Apocalypse.

of the Seals had before been introduced. He there observes that the Seventh Seal must naturally be supposed to be called the seventh, *as succeeding the other six*, which, according to this arrangement, *it does not*, for the opening of the Seventh Seal synchronizes with the opening of the first, and therefore precedes the opening of the remaining five. This objection against the scheme of Archdeacon Woodhouse is equally forcible against that of Mr. Cuninghame; and acquiescing in the justice of the criticism, I agree with Mr. Faber in considering the arrangement as inadmissible; but on the other hand I am of opinion with Mr. Cuninghame, that “the commonly-received interpretation of the sixth Seal is erroneous, and that it refers not to any thing that took place in the time of Constantine,” but to much later events, which are to precede and to be the signs of the speedy approach of the second advent of our Lord; but though Mr. Cuninghame’s idea of the sixth Seal is, I believe, so far correct, I apprehend he has erred in supposing that the Day of Wrath is spoken of* *as belonging to the period of the sixth Seal*, instead of being spoken of in order to connect the period of the sixth Seal with the *following period* of the Day of

* Rev. vi. 17.

Wrath, described under the seventh Seal and Trumpet, which connexion would not otherwise have been discoverable, because *the chapter which immediately follows* * does not speak of the destruction of the Empire in the Day of Wrath, but of the preservation of the Protestant Nation during that period.

We shall be confirmed in the opinion that the Day of Wrath (or the period of the seventh Trumpet) follows the period of the sixth Seal, instead of being, as Mr. Cuninghame supposes, cotemporary with it, if we observe that in Rev. vi. 17, it is at the *conclusion* of the period of the sixth Seal that the Day of Wrath is said to be come; but in Rev. xi. 18, the Day of Wrath is said to be come upon the first sounding of the seventh Trumpet *before the opening of the Temple*, and consequently before the infliction of any of the seven last plagues; clearly shewing, that the *end* of the period of the sixth Seal, and the *commencement* of the period of the seventh Trumpet, refer to the same point of time.

As it is of the greatest importance that no point in the general plan and arrangement of the Apocalypse should be considered as left undecided, as a further proof that the period of

* Rev. vii.

the sixth Seal is prior to that of the seventh Trumpet, I observe that the sealing of the servants of God in their foreheads (the action described in the seventh chapter of the Revelations), is said to come “*after*” the Earthquake, and the other events of the sixth Seal. But this action takes place when the judgments are about to be inflicted upon the earth, by means of the Angels to whom “it was given *to hurt the earth*,” an expression which unquestionably refers to the pouring out of the Seven Vials of Wrath upon the earth, during the period of the Seventh Trumpet; it follows, therefore, that the Earthquake, and other events of the sixth Seal (inasmuch as they precede the period of the seventh chapter of the Revelations), precede the period of the seventh Trumpet.

A similar circumstance to that which we have just been considering, namely, of the Day of Wrath’s being spoken of in the *preceding* period of the sixth Seal, occurs in chapter xii. of Revelations, where, after the persecution of the Great Red Dragon is spoken of, the flight and retreat of the Woman into the wilderness for 1260 years; is also mentioned*; this I understand as pointing out the connexion of the period of the Great Red Dragon, or Paganism, with the period of the 1260 years of the

* Rev. xii. 6 and 14.

Two-horned beast, or the Papacy, *immediately following*; but Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame infer from it, that the period of the Great Red Dragon is *the same* as that of the Two-horned Beast or the Papacy.

It is to be remarked further, that Mr. Cuninghame, in his arrangement of the Apocalypse, considers the periods of the seven Vials as contemporary, and not as succeeding each other: the arguments by which he supports this arrangement, will be found in the following quotation from his work:

“ I shall now,” he observes, “ offer one or two arguments to shew that the Vials certainly are synchronical.

“ The *seven Vials* are the constituent parts of the Third Woe, or the *seventh Trumpet*, and contain all the remarkable events of that Trumpet. But these Vials contain only one Earthquake (or revolution), viz., that of the seventh Vial; and likewise only one symbolical storm, with its concomitant effects, which is also mentioned in the Seventh Vial: therefore the seventh Trumpet contains only one symbolical Earthquake and storm; and it follows, that the lightnings, voices, thunderings, earthquakes, and great hail, seen by the Apostle in Rev. xi. 19, are precisely the same as those seen under the seventh Vial. But

“ *the symbolical tempest and earthquake of Rev.*
 “ xi. 19 (which are the same with those of the
 “ Seventh Vial), *immediately succeed the open-*
 “ *ing of the Temple of God in heaven, which*
 “ had previously been shut; and the effusion of
 “ the *first Vial also immediately follows the*
 “ *opening of the temple in heaven, Rev. xv. 5,*
 “ xvi. 1, therefore the Earthquake of the Se-
 “ venth Vial, which is the same with that of
 “ Rev. xi. 19, must be synchronical with the
 “ effusion of the first Vial, since they both
 “ equally happen immediately after the open-
 “ ing of the temple, and the *first and seventh*
 “ Vials being thus shewn to be synchronical,
 “ all the rest must be so likewise.”

In part of the premises here laid down, I perfectly agree with Mr. Cuninghame; for the earthquake of the seventh Trumpet, mentioned in Rev. xi. 19, is unquestionably the same as the earthquake of the *seventh Vial* mentioned in Rev. xvi. 18; but I cannot agree with him in opinion, that this earthquake takes place immediately upon the first sounding of the Trumpet, and that its effusion is therefore cotemporary with that of the *first Vial*.

The earthquake, it must be observed, is the *only event* mentioned in the *summary account of the seventh Trumpet*, given in Rev. xi. 19; nothing therefore can be collected from this

text, as to the *place it occupies*, whether at the beginning or end of the period to which it belongs: the only deduction to be drawn from this text is, that the earthquake, as being the only event mentioned, is the *principal* and most important one that takes place in the whole period of the seventh Trumpet; the probable conclusion therefore may be, that it refers to the *last event* of the seventh Trumpet, or to that through which the whole series of judgments will be consummated; accordingly we find it placed under the seventh Vial, which we must naturally consider as following the other six, and the pouring out of which is accompanied by a voice, saying, "It is done."

This Earthquake is an event of such transcendent importance, that it is also *alone* referred to in a *summary account of all the seven Trumpets*, given in Rev. viii. 5.

The second argument adduced by Mr. Cunningham, to prove that the seven Vials are all synchronical, is thus stated:—

"Again, no one will deny, that in the year
 "1792, a most awful political storm and
 "mighty earthquake began to agitate and convulse the Roman Empire. The shocks of
 "this earthquake have succeeded each other
 "with such rapidity and violence, as to threaten

“ the utter subversion of civil society. Now it
 “ is quite incredible that the earthquake should
 “ be *no where* mentioned in the Vials : and it is
 “ *not* mentioned, unless it be the earthquake
 “ of the *seventh Vial* ; therefore, the conclu-
 “ sion is, that it is *that very earthquake*, and
 “ that the *seventh Vial* began to be poured out
 “ in 1792 ; and as the *first Vial* began to be
 “ poured out in the same year, these two, and
 “ all the other Vials, are synchronical.”

This argument is founded upon the supposition, that the period of the *sixth* Seal, which contains the Earthquake of the year 1792, synchronizes with that of the *seventh* Trumpet, or of the Vials ; but though I agree with Mr. Cunninghame in opinion, that the French Revolution is referred to by the earthquake of the sixth Seal, this would be with me a reason why I should *not* expect to find it mentioned in the period of the seventh Trumpet amongst the Vials, but in the period of the sixth Trumpet, accordingly immediately *before* the sounding of the *seventh* Trumpet I find an Earthquake takes place, in which a tenth part of the City falls* ; and this earthquake I consider with Mr. Faber as referring to the French Revolution†, and the earthquake of the seventh Vial as relating to

* Rev. xi. 13. † Faber's Dissert. vol. II. p. 115. 4th edit.

some similar event yet future. Mr. Cuninghame's idea, that the various changes in the kingdoms and states of the continent, which have taken place from the year 1792 up to the present time, are all to be referred to a continuance of the Earthquake of that year, I cannot consider as admissible, because these changes are not of a nature to be represented by the symbol of an Earthquake, for they have not originated, like the French Revolution, from internal commotions, but have been effected in each kingdom by the invasion of a foreign enemy.

That there is some defect in Mr. Cuninghame's arrangement, in which the Vials are considered as *synchronical*, and are all made to refer to *the whole period of the sixth Seal*, will, I think, appear from a reference to the symbolical description given of the period of the *fourth* Vial, during which we find that the power and influence of the Sun is so increased, that it *scorches* men with intolerable heat; while in the period of the sixth Seal the Sun undergoes a *total eclipse*, becoming "black as sackcloth of hair." These effects, however, Mr. Cuninghame's theory necessarily obliges him to interpret as taking place at one and the same time, and the Sun is therefore supposed by him to withdraw his light at the very period

that he emits the greatest degree of heat *, a representation which must be considered as unsanctioned by any other of the symbolical descriptions of the Apocalypse, which, though wonderful and portentous, are never so dissimilar to any possible appearances in nature, or, as I should rather say, so absolutely contradictory in their terms.

I may observe further, that the regular *successive* occurrence of the events which we have already witnessed, and which we find described as taking place during the periods of the five first Vials, must in itself refute the idea of their being synchronical, and that the errors both in Mr. Faber's and Mr. Cuninghame's theories respecting the Vials will more clearly appear, should the Ottoman empire soon fall, as it is

* “ It appears to me, that when this Vial (*i. e.*, the fourth) “ is poured on the Sun, he withdraws his light, at the same “ time that he scorches men with fire, or he emits a light “ which is like the flames of hell-darkness visible.—The an- “ cient Imperial power is extinguished, and the new Imperial “ power emits scorching fire, but no cheering light. And as “ the operation of all the Vials continued till the awful day “ of Armageddon, with continually increasing violence, we “ may suppose that the effect of this Vial will be to render “ the *fire* of the symbolical Sun more and more scorching, “ and his *light* more and more dim, till at length his rays “ shall be all fire with no light, and he shall become black “ as sackcloth of hair.”—Cuninghame's Dissertation, p. 343.

my firm opinion that it will*; for as we have found the five first Vials actually to occupy not quite 22 years, should the sixth Vial, which all commentators agree in referring to the destruction of the Ottoman empire, be completely poured out in the course of *three or four years*, it will demonstrate the fallacy of Mr. Faber's scheme, which places the *termination* of the period of this Vial in the year 1866, or 52 years hence: the event will also add a further proof in support of the opinion held by Mr. Faber, as well as by myself, that the seven Vials succeed

* In the course of the last eventful year, I have constantly stated it to be my opinion, that when the Fifth Vial of Wrath, which was then pouring out upon France, was exhausted, it would be succeeded by a period of peace in the Western Roman Empire; that the scene of action would be transferred to the Eastern Roman Empire; and that the Ottoman Empire would fall. As the first event has taken place, and peace has been obtained, the next may be expected very *speedily* to follow; and will, if my general hypothesis be correct, be completed, at furthest, in *about* four years.—*Printed this day, 6 May, 1814.* (1st Edit.)

Mr. Faber, in his fifth edition, published in December last, also says, that “the *next* primary event which we may expect is the gradual downfall of the Ottoman Empire by “*successive dismemberments* as foretold under the ensuing” (*i. e.*, the sixth) “Vial.” This note is dated by Mr. Faber “July 28, 1814.”

—See some further remarks relative to the events of the present day, in a note at the end of this chapter.

each other, and that they are not, as Mr. Cuninghame supposes, synchronical.

I would now remark, that the blending together the different periods of the Apocalypse (which must be the tendency of a supposed synchronical effusion of the Vials) would deprive the Apocalypse of all its authority and evidence; and it is a want of character and feature that I consider to be the defect of the whole of Mr. Cuninghame's system. It will be seen by a reference to the table at the commencement of this volume, that in the arrangement which I suppose to be the correct arrangement of the Apocalypse, the history of the Roman Empire commencing from the time of the removal of the seat of Government to Constantinople, is given in the two parallel prophecies of the Seals and Trumpets relating severally to the Eastern and Western branches of the Empire. Each Prophecy is divided into seven distinct periods, and the action described in each period terminates before the action of the succeeding period commences. The seven subdivisions of the two parallel series of Seals and Trumpets also correspond with each other, that is, the period of each Seal corresponds with the period of the Trumpet bearing the same number; an arrangement, it must be allowed, which, while it is perfectly simple, is at the same time the most

definite and precise that could be imagined, and which therefore, not allowing any latitude of application, presents insuperable difficulties to an erroneous or factious interpretation of the Apocalypse. But if, as in the system of Mr. Cuninghame, the periods of the Seals may be allowed to have no precise commencement or termination, and if they are not made parallel with those of the Trumpets; if the 7th Seal may be supposed to precede the 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th, if the emblems of the Roman Empire, seen under such different circumstances as when connected with the Red Dragon, in alliance with the Two-horned Beast of the Earth, and connected with the Scarlet-coloured Beast out of the Bottomless Pit, need not be considered as thus seen in reference to different periods of its existence; and lastly, if the events of the seven Vials may be all united into one heterogeneous mass, the Apocalypse will be made to possess so little of feature and character, it will be so melted down, its asperities will be so softened, and it will be rendered so fusile, as to run into any mould, and take any form the ingenuity of the commentator may devise. A work founded upon such principles, may be highly pleasing and interesting, but, for want of a sufficiency of internal evidence, it can never carry complete conviction.

The great facilities that would be afforded to a commentator, by being allowed to consider the Vials as all referring indiscriminately to the same period, instead of referring individually to the *principal events* which took place *in seven* successive minor periods, will be made evident, if we observe that seven events being given, the probability that they will occur in a prescribed order is only as 1 to $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6 \times 7$, or as one to five thousand and forty ; that is, seven events must be supposed to occur over and over again five thousand and forty times before they can be expected to occur once *by chance* in the regular series of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. To deprive the events of the seven Vials of their successive occurrence, is therefore to deprive the Apocalypse of Saint John of a great part of its internal evidence.

I do not mean to say that the synchronical arrangement has been adopted by Mr. Cuninghame, as affording facilities to the interpretation of the seven Vials ; for, fixing with Mr. Faber the sounding of the seventh Trumpet on the 10th August, 1792, and the Apocalypse being so clear in every part, that where the plan is correctly fixed, there can be no difficulty in the interpretation. Mr. Cuninghame's *synchronical* solution of the five first Vials will be found, upon examination, to contain the

correct successive solution of them, deprived however of nearly all its evidence and authority, by each Vial being made to refer to more than one event, and to spread indefinitely through a period of thirty, or perhaps seventy-five years, instead of being referred each individually to *the one principal event* of seven successive subdivisions of the minor period.

Having stated that no necessity existed from any difficulty in their interpretation to derange the Vials from that successive order which is pointed out by their successive numbers, and by the analogy of the preceding series of the seven Seals and seven Trumpets, it becomes natural to inquire from what cause we find them placed in a synchronical order, and we shall find the cause to be, that the consistency of Mr. Cuninghame's scheme required it; for the reverse of the argument, which on the supposed *parallelism* of the sixth Seal and seventh Trumpet, would prove the *synchronism* of the seven Vials, would demonstrate when the Vials are considered as *successive*, that the period of the sixth Seal does *not* synchronize with the period of the seventh Trumpet. On these premises the argument will be as follows: the Earthquake of the sixth Seal is allowed to be the Earthquake of the French Revolution, the principal event of which took place on the 10th

August, 1792. It is allowed also, that the seventh Trumpet sounded on, or immediately after, the 10th August, 1792; but there is no Earthquake in the first Vial, or at the commencement of the period of the seventh Trumpet: it is evident therefore that the Earthquake of the sixth Seal in the year 1792 (in which the Sun underwent a total eclipse) has no parallel in the period of the seventh Trumpet, because if it had, it would be found in the period of the first Vial; the Earthquake of the sixth Seal must therefore precede the period of the seventh Trumpet, and synchronize with the Earthquake of the sixth Trumpet, in which “a tenth part of the city fell.” This (which may be considered as an additional argument to that stated in page 30) proves that the period of the sixth Seal synchronizes with the period of the *sixth* Trumpet, if we allow that the Earthquake of the sixth Seal and the sounding of the seventh Trumpet took place in the year 1792; and also that the effusion of the Vials is successive. It will be evident, therefore, that Mr. Cuninghame’s arrangement of the Seals and Trumpets must stand or fall with the synchronical effusion of the Vials.

And here it is worthy of attention, that so admirably connected is the Apocalypse, that no part can be misplaced without deranging the

whole. A commentator cannot make the seventh Seal to precede the second, third, &c., without discovering that consistency obliges him to make the seven successive Vials synchronical. This will produce difficulties in the interpretation, and these difficulties of interpretation will create inaccuracies in the meaning given to the symbols; so that it may be considered as a maxim, that if any material error is introduced into a system of interpretation, and if an attempt is made, as it always will be by every judicious commentator, to bring that system into form, and to render one part consistent with another, it will be found to contain in every branch of it some evident intimation of its radical error.

Before I close this subject it may be necessary to meet an objection, which I am aware may probably be made, to the period of the sixth Seal and Trumpet being considered to terminate on the 10th August, 1792, *amidst* the most important events of the French Revolution. I must in this place only briefly observe, that I know no medium between applying each of the Apocalyptic symbols to *one* great event, or otherwise to *all* the events connected with it, to which it may seem applicable: and agreeably to my opinion of the great precision of the prophetic language, I must consider the former as

the only method of interpretation that is admissible. If then the Earthquake was the French *Revolution*, and that only ; the period of the *Earthquake* of the sixth Trumpet may properly be considered to have ceased when the Revolution was completed, or when the tenth part of the City fell ; this was on the 10th August, 1792, which was signalized by the fall of the ancient Papal Monarchical kingdom of France. Again, in endeavouring to fix the *precise time* at which the period of the sixth Seal terminates, I know not what other correct rule can be followed than to observe the description that is given of *the principal symbol* : this is undoubtedly the Sun, which is said to become black as sackcloth of hair* : we conclude therefore that the period of the sixth Seal terminated when the Sun of the political system suffered a total eclipse, or was deprived of all power, splendour, influence, and regal dignity. This description again directs us to that important day, the 10th August, 1792. Had the Sixth Seal extended to a later period, the description given of the Sun, as well as of the Moon†, would probably have been that it was turned into blood ; but before the death of the king and queen of France took

* Rev. vi. 12.

† See Articles SUN and MOON, in the Symbolical Dictionary.

place, the period of the sixth Seal was already passed, and the period of the *seventh* Seal and seventh Trumpet had commenced ; for the first Vial (according to Mr. Faber) was poured out a few days after the 10th August, 1792 ; the description therefore given of the Sun, under the sixth Seal, as being *the principal symbol*, terminates with its becoming black as sackcloth of hair.

Being unwilling to leave the subject in an incomplete state, I have been led to transgress the rule I had here prescribed for myself, and to touch in a slight degree upon the *interpretation* of the Prophecy. The objection which I have supposed to arise in the mind of the reader, on account of the critical period at which I make the seventh Seal and seventh Trumpet to terminate, will, however, be found to be already provided for in the perfect system of the Apocalypse. For in Rev. xi. 14, after the fall of the tenth part of the City had been declared, it is said “ the second woe (i. e., of the sixth Trumpet) is past, and the third woe *cometh quickly*.” This we are to look upon as a prophetic caution, designed to guide the interpreter, and we deduce from it that the third woe, or that of the seventh Seal and Trumpet, will follow so speedily upon the second woe, or that of the sixth Seal and Trumpet, as to require a caution,

lest it should appear to be only a continuation of the same judgment: so that we might previously have concluded, that the convulsions of the period of the seventh Trumpet would appear to be only as so many successive shocks of the Earthquake of the sixth Seal. The objection, which I have supposed to arise in the mind of the reader, therefore, is not only removed, but the arrangement by which the *termination* of the Earthquake of the sixth Seal is fixed upon, 10th August, 1792, is strongly confirmed; for had not the correct arrangement, designed to be pointed out in the Apocalypse, been liable to the objection, the prophetic caution given in Rev. xi. 14, would have been without an object.

Having thus remarked upon what appear to me to be the principal errors in the systems of Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, I have only further to point out, that the *unity* of the plan of the Apocalypse is broken by Mr. Faber's interpretation of the Silence of half an hour*; which he supposes to *follow* the opening of the seventh Seal, and immediately to *precede* the sounding of the first Trumpet. The same thing also may be observed of Mr. Cuninghame's interpretation of the Earthquake*,

* See Tables explanatory of Mr. Faber's and Mr. Cuninghame's arrangements of the Apocalypse, pages 78 and 79.

mentioned in chap viii. ver. 5. For the periods supposed to be occupied by these events are thus as much made independent periods in the arrangement of the Apocalypse, as are the periods of any of the seven Trumpets.

There is another opinion held by Mr. Faber, and I believe by other commentators, which it may be right to notice, as it appears to me to be erroneous :—this is, that the Little Opened Book consists only of four chapters, viz., chap. xi. to xiv., and that the Prophet having passed from the Sealed Book to the Opened Book at the eleventh chapter, returns back again to the Sealed Book in the fifteenth. But this would be inconsistent with that simplicity of arrangement which we may expect to find, and which I have endeavoured to shew does exist in the Apocalypse of St. John.

Mr. Faber's theory, with respect to the Vials, also appears to me in some measure deficient in precision ; for though he considers that they are poured out in regular succession, he does not make one Vial to terminate before the succeeding Vial commences.

In thus pointing out those things which I consider to be erroneous in the arrangement of the Apocalypse, adopted by Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, I should feel that I was

doing them injustice, or rather proving myself deficient, either in judgment or candour, if I did not take an opportunity of declaring how much I think the Christian world indebted to them for their very valuable works.

With Mr. Cuninghame I have the satisfaction of entirely agreeing in the interesting view he takes of the general character of the times in which we live ; and to Mr. Faber I consider myself, in common with the rest of the Christian world, as greatly indebted for the rational and argumentative method of treating the subject of prophecy which he has introduced, or at least greatly encouraged by his example.

The following Tables have been made to shew their different arrangements of the Apocalypse ; the dates are inserted, as far as they could be ascertained from their respective works, that the whole may be the better compared with the Chart inserted at the commencement of this volume. The scheme of Whiston I have not regularly laid down ; for though I have been glad to avail myself of his authority in support of the principal synchronism of the Apocalypse, and though his work contains many excellent remarks, yet his general plan is not sufficiently regular to make it useful to insert it amongst those of modern commentators, for he con-

siders the period of the 1290 and 1335 years, as having a different commencement from the period of the 1260 years, and supposes also, that there are two independent periods of 1260 years, of which one only ends at the sounding of the seventh Trumpet ; which opinions being now exploded, render his general plan obsolete.

Scheme designed to explain Mr. Faber's Arrangement of the Apocalypse.

Sealed Book,
Containing the general History of the Church and Empire.

Seal 1
Seal 2
Seal 3
Seal 4
Seal 5
Seal 6

*not particularly
treated of in Mr. Fa-
ber's Work, but con-
sidered as referring
to a period of the Ro-
man Empire prior to
the year 323*

Silence of half an hour
*com. 323
ends 395*

Trumpet 1
*com. 395
ends 453*

Trumpet 2
*com. 455
ends 476*

Trumpet 3
*com. } 476
ends }*

Trumpet 4
*com. 476
ends indefinitely*

Trumpet 5
*com. 612
ends 762*

Seal 7
*com. 323
ends 1941*

Trumpet 6
*com. 1281
ends 10th Aug. 1792*

The Harvest of
God's Wrath. {

Vial or Thunder 1
com. 26th Aug. 1792

Vial or Thunder 2
com. Sept. 1792

Vial or Thunder 3
com. 19th Nov. 1792

Vial or Thunder 4
com. 4 Aug. 1802

Vial or Thunder 5
com. 1808

Vial or Thunder 6
com.

Trumpet 7
*com. 12th
Aug. 1792
ends 1941*

The Vintage
of God's Wrath. {

Vial or Thunder 7
com.

The
Numbers
of Daniel.

Little Opened Book,
containing the
History of the
Church during the
period of 1260 years

com. 606

*Period of
1260 years*

*ends 1866**

*Period of
30 years
ends 1896*

*Period of
45 years
ends 1941*

*Cotemporary periods of the 1260 years—of the Great
Red Dragon—the Two-horned Beast—and the
Beast out of the Bottomless pit, which is supposed
to be the same as the Ten-horned Beast of the Sea.*

Scheme designed to explain Mr. Cuninghame's Arrangement of the Apocalypse.

Sealed Book.

History of the Church.

Seal 1

refers to the greater part of the first three centuries

Seal 2

refers chiefly to the fourth and fifth centuries

Seal 3

refers to a very long period, commencing in the fifth century

Seal 4

refers to the thirteenth and following centuries, down to the latter end of the seventeenth century

Seal 5

is explanatory of the preceding Seals.

Seal 6

commences 10th Aug. 1792, and reaches to the period of the Millennium

Seventh Seal or Little Opened Book.

History of the Empire and of the Church.

An Earthquake

A. D. 313

Trumpet 1

com. 376

Trumpet 2

com. 395

Trumpet 3

com. 441

Trumpet 4

com. 455

Trumpet 5

com. 612

Trumpet 6

com. 1281

Trumpet 7

commences 10th Aug. 1792, and reaches to the period of the Millennium

Vials 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

are synchronical, and began to be poured out in the year 1792. These are the same as the seven Thunders.

The Numbers of Daniel.

commence Mar. 533

Period of 1260 years

*ends 10th Aug. 1792**

30 years ends 1823

45 years ends 1867

Cotemporary periods of the 1260 years of the Great Red Dragon--The Two-horned Beast--and the Beast out of the bottomless Pit, which is supposed to be the same as the Ten-horned Beast of the Sea.

THE MILLENNIUM.

* *N. B. The cleansing of the Sanctuary, or the expiration of the period of Daniel's Vision of the Ram and He-goat, is supposed both by Mr. Faber and by Mr. Cuninghame necessarily to synchronize with the expiration of the period of the 1260 years.*

The Vision was seen in the year A. C. 553, Mr. Faber reckons 2400 years from the year A. C. 535, in which year he supposes the action of the Vision to commence, and thus brings the termination of the period down to the year 1865.

Mr. Cuninghame reckons 2300 years from the year A. C. 508, in which year he supposes the action of the Vision to commence, and thus brings the termination of the period down to the year 1792.

SYMBOLICAL DICTIONARY.

Having arranged in their respective periods, agreeably to the natural divisions found in them, the various prophecies of Daniel, Esdras, and Saint John, so as to form a combined view of those prophecies which we shall hereafter consider separately, and more at length, we now proceed, preparatory to this examination, to fulfil the requirements of our Second Rule; which enjoins the formation of a Symbolical Dictionary; in order that we may ensure the giving to each symbol, whenever it occurs, a similar and consistent interpretation.

And here it is to be observed, that the advantage of the symbolical language of Scripture is this: that while it throws an apparent veil over the things of which it treats, it becomes, when understood, remarkably clear, beautiful, and descriptive; for the symbols are not arbitrarily chosen to represent things as words do in common language, but are in themselves descriptive, and in themselves contain the character of the object they represent; and this beauty in the symbolical language, as well as the connexion between one symbol and another, will, I hope,

be perceptible in examining the following explanations; though its accuracy and precision will more clearly appear at some future time, when I shall refer to this Symbolical Dictionary in giving an interpretation of the Revelation of Saint John.

The **EARTH**—The territories which were the seats of the four great empires; here the emblem is nearly the same as its object, for the whole natural earth is made to represent that important portion of it, which alone is the subject of prophecy*.

The **THIRD PART** of the **EARTH**—The Eastern Roman Empire†.

The **FOURTH PART** of the **EARTH**—Italy‡.

An **EARTHQUAKE**—A Violent Commotion, threatening the dissolution of a kingdom or empire§.

Connected with the emblem of the Earth, are the emblems of the Sun, the Moon, the Stars, the Sea, the Great River Euphrates, &c.

* Rev. vii. 1, 3. viii. 5. xi. 6. xii. 12, 13, 16. xiii. 12. xvi. 1, 2. † Rev. viii. 7—12. ix. 15, 18. xii. 4. ‡ Rev. vi. 8. It is possible that Italy may be denominated the fourth part of the earth, because it was the principal seat of the Western Roman Empire, one of the four ruling kingdoms of the world, while the Eastern Roman empire, as including part of the other three ruling kingdoms, is represented by a larger division. § Rev. vi. 12. viii. 5. xi. 13, 19. xvi. 18.

The **SUN**—The Ruling Power of the whole prophetic earth, and the principal object of attention in the political heavens: or the Roman Emperor, while the empire was in its undivided state; and, after that, the King of the principal kingdom of the divided empire*.

The **MOON** (which is considered as the consort of the Sun)—The Empress or Queen†.

The **STARS**—The Princes and Nobles of a kingdom‡.

The **HEAVENS**—The Political System in which all these appear§.

The emblems which relate to the heavens are also used sometimes to represent spiritual objects, and then they signify as follows, viz.:

The **SUN**—Our Saviour the sun of righteousness||.

The **MOON**—His chaste and faithful Consort, the Church¶.

The **STARS**—The Apostles, Bishops, or Ministers, of his Church**.

The **Heavens**, when spoken of spiritually, must be understood in their literal sense, as being the actual seats of bliss††.

GREAT WATERS—Multitudes of people. The

* Rev. vi. 12. viii. 12. xvi. 8. xix. 17. † Rev. vi. 12. viii. 12. ‡ Rev. vi. 13. viii. 12. § Rev. vi. 14. || Rev. ix. 2. xii. 1. ¶ Rev. xii. 1. ** Rev. i. 16, 20. ii. 1. iii. 1. xii. 1, 4. †† Rev. xii. 5, 7, 8, 10, 12. xiv. 17. xv. 5.

noise of many waters is as the noise of a multitude of people*.

The SEA, or “the untillable and barren deep,” —Multitudes in a barren and unfruitful state towards God; which are subject, also, to be agitated by storms like the troubled deep, that cannot rest, but whose waters cast up mire and dirt. If it is the Great Sea, it may represent the Gentiles, or the nations of the world at large, professing paganism. If an Inland Sea, it may represent the population of some principal kingdom, in an unfruitful state, professing infidelity, or a corrupt religion†.

A SEA OF GLASS (understood in a temporal sense)—A Population in a tranquil state; not liable to be agitated by storms, or the spirit of violence and discord:—Applied to spiritual things, it may be supposed to have a similar meaning‡.

The FOUR WINDS (understood in a temporal sense)—The Spirit of Violence and Discord; which acting upon the population, impel them against one another in different directions, and excite universal tumult and disorder: here, the object being invisible, the emblem is also invi-

* Rev. xvii. 15. Psal. lxxv. 7. Isai. xvii. 12. † Rev. xiii. 1. xvii. 15. xxi. 1. Isai. lvii. 20. Ezek. xlvii. 8. Dan. vii. 2, 3. II. Esd. xi. 1. Rev. vii. 1. viii. 8. xvi. 3. ‡ Rev. iv. 6. xv. 2.

sible*.—A Whirlwind, or violent wind, applied to spiritual things, appears, in some parts of Scripture, to be used as an emblem of the Wrath of God †.

THE GREAT RIVER EUPHRATES—The Turkish Empire, which first arose in the neighbourhood of that river ‡.

THE AIR;—The meaning of this symbol, I conceive to be derived from its property of being every where present; and that it is used to express Universality; in this case, a judgment or Vial of Wrath, being poured out into the air, would imply that it was one of universal extent and influence §.

WILD BEASTS, savage and ferocious in their nature, persecutors of the meek and helpless, and cruel devourers of each other—One or other of the Four ruling Kingdoms of the world; the seats of the four great empires, which were cruel persecutors of the Church, were always engaged in warfare, and have successively destroyed each other. These symbols are each strictly confined to certain *territories*, so as not to interfere with one another; but form together a complete division of the prophetic Earth into four parts ||.

* Rev. vii. 1. Dan. vii. 2. † Rev. vi. 13. Dan. ii. 35.
‡ Rev. ix. 14. xvi. 12. § Rev. ix. 2. xvi. 17. Eph. ii. 2.
|| Rev. xiii. 1, 12. Dan. vii. 3.

The **HORNS** upon the bodies of three of the Beasts—The Minor Kingdoms into which three of the ruling kingdoms of the world were divisible. These minor symbols, or subdivisions of the prophetic Earth, are likewise confined each to a certain *territory*, and form a complete subdivision of the territory of these ruling kingdoms, into as many parts as there are horns upon each beast*.

THE **HEADS OF A BEAST**—The Rulers of a Kingdom or Empire†.

The **IMAGE** (or likeness) of the **FOURTH BEAST OF TEMPORAL ROMAN EMPIRE**—The Temporal Sovereignty assumed by the Papacy‡.

WILD BEASTS of a different description, mentioned in the Apocalypse as the **TWO-HORNED BEAST OF THE EARTH§**, and the **SCARLET-COLOURED BEAST OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT||**; savage in nature and bestial in principle,—The Papal and Infidel Powers, enemies and persecutors of the Church.

The **CHASTE WOMAN**, the spouse of Christ,—The True Church (considered as an esta-

* Rev. xii. 3. xiii. 1. xvii. 3, 7, 12, 16. Dan. vii. 7, 8, 20, 24. † Rev. xii. 3. xiii. 1, 3. xvii. 9—11. Dan. vii. 6.
‡ Rev. xiii. 14, 15. xiv. 9, 11. xv. 2. xvi. 2. xix. 20. xx. 4.
§ Rev. xiii. 11. xiv. 9, 11. xv. 2. xx. 4. || Rev. xi. 7. xvi. 10, 13. xix. 19, 20.

blishment), bringing forth spiritual children to Christ. She is said to reside in the wilderness for 1260 years, which is typical of her being, during that period, in a barren and unproductive state*. This symbol is similar to that of the Holy City Jerusalem.

THE SEED OF THE WOMAN—True Believers in Christ, or the spiritual members of his body†.

FORNICATION—The Forsaking of the Worship of the True God to Worship Idols‡.

THE UNCHASTE WOMAN, or the Great Harlot—The Papacy which has turned the nations to Idolatry, or Spiritual Fornication§.

THE KINGS OF THE EARTH who have committed fornication with her—The Rulers of the Papal Nations||.

THE UNDEFILED WITH WOMEN—The Protestant Nation, which professes the pure doctrines of the Gospel, and which is uncontaminated by the pollutions of the Papacy¶.

THE GREAT CITY BABYLON, built and established upon earth—The Papacy, being an establishment of great extent. This city is

* Rev. xii. 1—end. xix. 7. xxi. 2, 9. xxii. 17. † Rev. xii. 4, 5, 17. ‡ Exod. xxxiv. 15, 16. Deut. xxxi. 16. Ezek. vi. 9. xvi. &c. &c. § Rev. xvii. xix. 2. || Rev. xvii. 2. xviii. 3, 9. ¶ Rev. xiv. 4.

founded upon a corrupt worship of the true God*.

The GREAT CITY called SODOM and EGYPT, —Paganism and Infidelity jointly, being establishments of wide extent and influence, and similar in nature, for they are both founded on a denial of the true God†.

The HOLY CITY JERUSALEM, including the Temple—The Visible Church of Christ, whose empire and influence will begin when Sodom, Egypt, and Babylon, are destroyed. This is a city whose foundations are sure, for it is founded upon a reliance on the covenant of grace, and on a knowledge of the true God. During the period of 1260 years, the whole of this city is trodden under foot of the Gentiles, excepting the interior courts of its temple. In its future glorious state, when purified, and renovated, and containing none but spiritual worshippers, it is called the *New Jerusalem*‡.

THE TEMPLE consists of three parts, THE OUTER COURT, or the Court of the Gentiles, which is common to all the Inhabitants of the City, and represents the body of those who are Professors of Religion only, and do not belong to the spiritual church§.

* Rev. xi. 13. xiv. 8, 20. xvi. 19. xvii. 5, 18. xviii. 2, 10, 16, 18, 21. † Rev. xi. 8. ‡ Rev. iii. 12. xi. 2. xxi. 2, 10. xxii. 14, 19. Gal. iv. 25. § Rev. xi. 2.

THE HOLY PLACE, or Second Court of the Temple, where none but the Priests might enter, represents the Spiritual Church upon earth, or the body of the true worshippers of Christ, who are “made kings and priests unto God*.” Immediately before the door of the Holy Place was situated the altar of burnt-offering, representing that there is no admittance into the true Church, but through faith in the merits of the death and sacrifice of Christ. The Holy Place had no light from without, being illuminated only by the candlestick with seven lamps, which typified the Spirit of God; thus the Spiritual Church derives all its light from the illumination of the Holy Spirit. In the Holy Place was the altar of incense, by this it is implied, that it is in the Church of Christ alone that acceptable prayer is offered up: there likewise was placed the shew-bread, of which the priests alone might eat, typifying that bread of life, by which the Church of Christ is fed.—THOSE that worship in the INNER COURT of the TEMPLE are the same as “the Seed of the Woman,” the Individual Members of the Spiritual Church†. THE HOLY OF HOLIES was a type of Heaven, the place of the immediate presence of God, and of his throne. THE TEMPLE IN HEAVEN

* Rev. xi. 1. xv. 8.

† Rev. xi. 1.

in the Apocalypse means the Holy of Holies, and symbolically represents the Church in Heaven*. In the New Jerusalem there will be no Temple†, for the Temple will then be identified with the Holy City; there will be no part peculiarly holy, for all will be holy; The Church in Heaven will descend to Earth‡, and God will dwell with men. The whole earth will be the Temple of Christ, and the whole Temple the Holy of Holies.

The LIVING CREATURES which surround the Throne—The Church in Heaven. This symbol is taken from the appearance of the twelve Tribes, as usually encamped round the Tabernacle in four companies§, under the four banners of the tribes of Judah, Ephraim, Reuben, and Dan, having upon them the figures of a Lion, an Ox, a Man, and an Eagle||.

INCENSE, or SWEET ODOURS—The Prayers of the Saints which ascend up to Heaven, and are acceptable to God. None might offer the incense who was not of the seed of Aaron; this typifying, that by Christ alone we can approach unto God; for God seen out of Christ is to sinners a consuming fire¶.

* Rev. xiv. 15. xv. 5, 6. xvi. 1, 17. † Rev. xxi. 22.

‡ Rev. xxi. 2, 3. § See Whiston, Sir Isaac Newton, &c. || Rev. iv. 6—9. v. 6—14. vi. 1—7. vii. 11. xiv. 3. xv. 7. xix. 4. ¶ Rev. v. 8. viii. 3, 4. Psa. cxli. 2. Mal. i. 11. Luke i. 10.

WHITE ROBES—The Righteousness of the Saints, which is derived from Christ*.

THE ISRAELITISH NATION, which alone was chosen from all other nations to the knowledge of God during the times of the three first great Empires, is made to represent that favoured Protestant nation, which has alone in these latter days been so selected and chosen to the knowledge of his name from amongst the ten nations of the divided Roman empire †.

THE GENTILES, as contrasted with the Jews, —The Nine Papal Nations, who though they do not avow it, yet like the Gentiles of old bow down before stocks and stones, and worship dumb idols‡.

THE TWO WITNESSES who prophesy, clothed in sackcloth, for a period of 1260 years—who have power to shut heaven that it rain not in the days of their prophecy—who smite the earth with plagues—and destroy their enemies with fire proceeding out of their mouths—and who are called the two olive trees and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the whole earth—The Old and New Testament, which have borne witness to God for many ages—which contain predictions of the period of the 1260 years' spiritual drought and barrenness—

* Rev. iii. 4, 5. iv. 4. vii. 9, 13. xix. 8, 14. † Rev. vii. 4—8. xiv. 1, 3. xv. 2—4. Dan. xii. 28, 30, 32. ‡ Rev. xi. 2.

which contain denunciations of successive judgments to be inflicted upon the kingdoms of the world—which predict the destruction of their Papal enemies—and which are the appointed sources of grace and spiritual light*.

RAIN from Heaven—The vivifying and fertilizing influence of the Holy Spirit†.

“GRASS and every green thing,”—True Believers, or those who live under the influence of the Spirit of God‡.

A RIVER OF PURE WATER—The Pure Doctrines of the Gospel, the support of our spiritual life§.

RIVERS and FOUNTAINS of WATER—The Sources of Religious Instruction. These, if pure, convey life and health; but if made bitter by the infusion of false doctrines, they cause those who drink of them to die||.

A FALLING (or SHOOTING) STAR—A Minister of Religion, who apostatizes from the truth, and brings in false doctrines¶.

A COMET, or “HORRIBLE STAR,”—A great Warrior and Destroyer; one of portentous aspect, who plagues the nations**.

A FLOOD, or Mass of Waters in motion, car-

* Rev. xi. 3—12. † Rev. xi. 6. Heb. vi. 4—8. ‡ Rev. viii. 7. ix. 4. § Rev. xxii. 1, 17. Isai. xli. 18. lv. 1. Ezek. xlvii. 1—9. Zech. xiv. 8. || Rev. vii. 17. viii. 10. xvi. 4. xxi. 6. ¶ Rev. viii. 10. ix. 1. ** II. Esdras, xv. 40.

rying away and destroying every thing opposed to it—A large Body of Men, or an Army in motion, laying every thing waste before it*.

A STORM of HAIL, beating down and destroying all the fruits of the 'earth—An Invasion from the Northern Regions, where hail may be supposed to be generated†.

A FLIGHT of LOCUSTS, which settling, devour and lay waste the fruits of the earth—An Invasion and Settlement of a people from a Southern Country, where Locusts are bred‡.

SHIPS—The Establishments of those who make a gain of godliness§.

SHIP MASTERS, or Merchants—Venal Ecclesiastics||.

A SEAL or Mark being set upon any one is an act of appropriation, by which the thing or person marked, is considered as the property of him who affixes the mark¶.

THE SEAL of GOD being set upon any one, with the idea of appropriation, includes that of security and protection**.

THE WINGS of an EAGLE, are the emblems of Power and Wide Extended Empire, including also the idea of protection††.

* Rev. xii. 15, 16. Dan. ix. 26. xi. 22. † Rev. viii. 7. xi. 19. xvi. 21. ‡ Rev. ix. 3. § Rev. viii. 9. xviii. 17, 19. || Rev. xviii. 11, 15, 17, 23. ¶ Rev. xiii. 16, 17. xiv. 9, 11. xv. 2. xvi. 2. xix. 20. xx. 4. ** Rev. iii. 12. vii. 2. ix. 4. xiv. 1. xxii. 4. †† Rev. xii. 14. Exod. xix. 4. Deut. xxxii.

THE WINGS of any other FOWL of the air are emblems of Swiftness only*.

AN HORSE is an emblem of Power and Authority. A person seated on an horse represents a person possessing such power and authority. A person seated on a white horse, represents one who is victorious and successful†.

THE TAIL of a SCORPION (the seat of poison) —The Seat of False and Deadly Doctrines‡.

THE TAIL of any animal—The Seat of erroneous Doctrines, which are base and degrading§.

A PROPHECIC DAY—A Year||.

A PROPHECIC MONTH—Thirty Years¶.

A TIME, or PROPHECIC YEAR—Three hundred and sixty Years**.

A DIVIDING OF TIME—One hundred and eighty Years††.

A PROPHECIC HOUR—A Month, or twelfth part of a year. When not introduced into the calculation of a precise period, it means indefinitely a short period‡‡.

11. Ruth ii. 12. Psal. xvii. 8. xxxvi. 7. Isai. xviii. 1. Ezek. xvii. 3, 7. Dan. vii. 4.

* Jer. xlviii. 9. Dan. vii. 6. Prov. xxiii. 5. † Rev. vi. 2—8. xix. 11, 14, 19, 21. Psal. xlv. 4. ‡ Rev. ix. 10. § Rev. ix. 19. xii. 4. Isa. ix. 15. || Rev. ix. 15. xi. 3, 9, 11. xii. 6. Numb. xiv. 34. Ezek. iv. 6. ¶ Rev. ix. 5, 15. xi. 2. xiii. 5. ** Rev. xii. 14. Dan. vii. 25. xii. 7. †† Dan. vii. 25. xii. 7. ‡‡ Rev. ix. 15. xi. 13. xiv. 7. xvii. 12. xviii. 10, 17, 19.

THE HARVEST of the **EARTH**—A Time of temporal judgments, when “the time of her Harvest is come,” and “her slain fall in the midst of her*.”

THE VINTAGE, or THE TREADING of the **WINE PRESS** (succeeding to the Harvest)—The Time when Christ will inflict a still more signal judgment on his enemies, “treading them in his anger, and trampling them in his fury.” This judgment will be attended with a very great effusion of blood†.

FIRE—Destruction inflicted upon an enemy‡.

LIGHTNING, or fire from heaven—A Manifest Vengeance of God upon his enemies§.

THUNDER, which attends the lightning—A Plain Declaration, that such judgments are from God||.

These are the chief of the emblems used in the prophetic writings, and are mostly found in the Revelation of Saint John. In order to guard against mistakes in their interpretation, we must observe, that all objects introduced into a symbolical description, are not necessarily to be

* Rev. xiv. 15. Jer. ix. 22. li. 33, 47, 49. Joel, iii. 13.
† Rev. xiv. 18—20. xix. 15. Isai. lxiii. 1—6. ‡ Rev. viii. 5, 7, 8. xi. 5. xiii. 13. xiv. 18. xv. 2. xvi. 8. xviii. 8. xx. 9, 10, 14, 15. xxi. 8. Psal. xcvi. 3. § Rev. iv. 5. viii. 5. xi. 19. xvi. 18. Psal. cxliv. 6. Zech. ix. 14. || Rev. viii. 5. x. 3, 4. xi. 19. xvi. 18.

considered as themselves symbolical ; thus, in the description of a Star falling from heaven to earth, heaven and earth must be understood according to their literal meaning, and the Falling Star be taken only as symbolical ; a commentator not attending to this principle of interpretation, would be forced to give various significations to the symbolical Heaven and Earth, or other objects, and thus destroy the simplicity and precision of the prophetic symbols.

Again it is to be observed, that the symbols, though all of them substantives, may be used as adjectives, and be attached to another symbol, and then, retaining their original meaning, they express some quality or property in the principal symbol to which they are appendages : thus, where a Woman is represented in Rev. chap. xii. as clothed with the Sun, having the Moon under her feet, and a crown of twelve Stars upon her head ; the symbolical Woman only is the noun substantive ; the Sun, the Moon, and the Stars, are used as adjectives, expressing qualities and properties belonging to her. Respecting these adjectives, as well as others in similar instances, nothing further is narrated in the course of the prophecy, they being appendages to the noun substantive, which alone is intended to be represented as actually existing in its place. It is, I think, for

want of sufficiently understanding or advert-
ing to this use of the symbols, that commentators,
with the exception of Mr. Faber, seeing the
Church already represented by the Woman her-
self, and fearing, I conceive, to represent the
same object, namely, the Church, in two places
at once, have given various and unsatisfactory
interpretations of the symbolical Moon ; which,
as connected with the spiritual Sun and Stars,
undoubtedly typifies the Church ; and this in-
terpretation is confirmed by the consideration,
that in the Apocalypse, what a symbolical object
stands upon, appears intended typically to de-
scribe what it actually is*.

Again it is to be observed, that we must dis-
tinguish, in the Revelation of Saint John, be-
tween that which makes a part of the machinery
of the prophecy, and that which belongs to the
prophecy itself: Commentators, from not ad-
verting to this distinction, have interpreted the
silence of half an hour, which immediately pre-
cedes the sounding of the seven Trumpets, as

* So in Rev. xv. 2. The Israelitish Nation, or Protes-
tant British Nation (spoken of before in chap. vii. *ver.* 3—8.
and in chap. xiv. *ver.* 1, 2), is represented as *standing* during
the 30 years of trouble and discord upon a Sea of Glass, where
the Sea of Glass (or the *population* in a tranquil state, not
liable to be agitated by the spirit of violence and discord) is
the same in import as the protestant British Nation *which*
stands upon it.

if it were symbolical, whereas, it is only part of the machinery, or a pause in the representation: this error has led, among the older writers, to the universal mistake which has been made by them in the arrangement of the whole series of Seals and Trumpets.

The Heavens have likewise been considered as symbolical, and interpreted as such, where they only mean the scene in which the representation appears.

There is also a distinction, which it may be useful to point out, between symbolical description and symbolical narrative; for, in the former, every thing should be deemed inconsistent and inadmissible but what the Apostle could actually have seen, while the latter is only to be considered as narrative in figurative language, and is introduced sometimes, in addition to symbolical description, to relate some particulars that could not be shewn in the representation.

Thus, when it is said that the Two Witnesses who prophesy for 1260 years who are then killed, and who then rise again, “are the Two Candlesticks, and the Two Olive Trees;” the latter sentences of course do not belong to symbolical description, but to narration in figurative language, and imply (in simple language)

that the Two Witnesses are the two great sources of spiritual light and grace.

Again, when it is said that the beast out of the Bottomless Pit is the *eighth head of the beast*, the passage is not descriptive, for the beast, as seen by the Apostle, had only seven heads. It must therefore be considered only as narrative in figurative language, implying that the Beast that rises out of the bottomless pit would be the eighth Ruler of the Roman empire.

Other instances of symbolical narrative, as distinguished from description, occur where the *Woman*, sitting on the seven-headed beast, is said to be *the Great City*, or the Papacy; and again, where the *Holy City* is said to come down as a *bride* prepared for her husband.

Remarks upon the Interpretations of the Symbols given by former Commentators.

As the meanings given to many of the symbols in the foregoing Dictionary differ from those given in the Work of Mr. Faber (who has, I believe, treated this part of the subject of prophecy more regularly than other writers), I shall consider a few of those differences,

which appear to be of most importance, as being connected with that general plan and arrangement of the Apocalypse, which, in the former part of this chapter, I have attempted to establish.

The most important symbol, in this point of view, is that of **THE THIRD PART OF THE EARTH**, which is here considered as the symbol of the Eastern Roman empire, but is supposed by Mr. Faber, and other commentators, to represent the whole Roman empire, both Western and Eastern, and therefore to have the same signification as is also given by them to the symbol of the whole **EARTH**; but the inconsistency of thus making the third part equivalent to the whole is so evident, that it becomes necessary to explain how an interpretation of this kind could ever have been generally received. It undoubtedly owes its origin to an erroneous location of the Seals and Trumpets, by which the Seals were made to precede the Trumpets instead of running parallel with them; for the Seals being thus made alone to refer to the *first* periods of the Roman empire, and the Trumpets alone to its *latter* periods, had the Trumpets, which speak of the Third Part of every thing—as the Third Part of the Sun, the Third Part of the Moon, the Third Part of the Stars, the Third Part of the Sea,

the Third Part of the Rivers and Fountains of Water, &c. &c.—been correctly considered as referring solely to events which took place in the *Eastern* Roman empire, the Western Roman empire in its latter periods would, by this arrangement of the Seals and Trumpets, have been entirely excluded from prophetic history, and therefore to avoid this, a more extensive signification than consistency admitted, has been given to the symbol of the Third Part of the Earth, and to the other symbols in which a Third Part is alone spoken of.

It is, however, universally agreed, that the commission given on the sounding of the sixth Trumpet to the four angels, which were bound in the river Euphrates, “to *slay* the *Third Part* of men,” refers to the destruction of the *Eastern* Roman empire by the Turks: analogy therefore seems to require that the Trumpets, which universally speak of the Third Part of the several objects introduced, should all be considered as referring to the *Eastern* Roman empire alone.

That the interpretation of the phrase, “the Third Part,” is an acknowledged difficulty amongst commentators, will be seen by the following quotation from the work of Mr. Cuninghame, which contains a correct criticism upon the interpretation of this symbol adopted

by Mr. Faber : “ There is a circumstance,” he observes, “ with respect to the Trumpets, which “ seems to have perplexed all our interpreters. “ It is, that on the sounding of each Trumpet, “ only a third part of the object against which “ it denounces vengeance, is destroyed. I have “ not,” he adds, “ in any author, whose writings I have met with, seen any sufficient reason for this singular fact. Bishop Newton “ supposes that there is a reference to the Roman empire, as being at that time a third “ part of the known world, and the Bishop is “ followed by Mr. Faber in this idea, But it “ may be remarked, that the symbolical universe, seen by the Apostle John, represented “ not the whole habitable world, but the Roman empire in particular, which is the special subject and theatre of the apocalyptic prophecies ; and, in the interpretation of the “ Vials, Mr. Faber himself admits this to be “ the case. The earth (says Mr. Faber, in his “ remarks on the first Vial) is the Roman empire. If then the entire symbolical earth “ denote the Roman empire, to suppose that “ the frequent mention of a third part of this “ Roman earth has any relation to the proportion which the Roman empire itself bears to “ the whole habitable world, would be to introduce the greatest confusion of ideas into

102 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

“ the exposition of the prophecy* ”. The solution of the difficulty proposed by Mr. Cuninghame is, that the destruction of *a third part* should be considered as referring to the *partial and incomplete* destruction of the Roman empire, which took place at the division of the empire into ten kingdoms ; its total and complete destruction being reserved for the period of the pouring out of the seven Vials of Wrath. This interpretation avoids indeed the inconsistency of representing a third part as equal to the whole, but does not suit the words of the prophecy, where the *complete* destruction of a *certain portion* of the earth is spoken of, and not the *incomplete* destruction of the *whole* : As this interpretation is certainly unsatisfactory, I conclude that there is no possible way of removing the difficulty, except by doing away the cause which gave rise to it, and adopting a more correct arrangement of the Apocalypse†.

* Cuninghame's Dissertation, p. 75.

† Mr. Faber has lately, in his fifth edition, altered his interpretation of this symbol, and makes it in one passage signify the Eastern Roman empire, in others the Western empire, while the other third part he supposes to be Africa. This may be an improvement upon the former interpretation of the symbol, but this also is obviously objectionable, as the precise meaning of the symbol, whether Asia, Europe, or Africa, must, in all cases where it occurs, be left uncertain.

Amongst the apocalyptic symbols, another of the greatest importance will be found to be the SCARLET-COLOURED BEAST of the BOTTOMLESS PIT, which is here considered as a symbol of the Infidel Power, but, is supposed by Mr. Faber, Mr. Cuninghame, and I believe all other commentators, to represent the Secular Roman empire, and to be the same as the Ten-horned Beast of the Sea. Several difficulties, however, will be found to occur in giving to it this meaning: for instance, it is said, in Rev. xvii. 11, that the Beast out of the Bottomless Pit should be the eighth and last Head, King, Ruler, or Form of Government, of the Roman empire, and that he would be one of the seven; which Mr. Faber observes necessarily implies, that the *same individual* would be successively the seventh and eighth Head or Ruler of the empire in two different capacities, and he supposes the prophecy to have been fulfilled in the person of Charlemagne, first as Patrician of Rome, and afterwards as Emperor of the Romans. The terms of the Prophecy, however, are, that the Beast of the Bottomless Pit will be this seventh and eighth head, which, according to Mr. Faber's and Mr. Cuninghame's idea, that the Beast out of the Bottomless Pit is the ten-horned Beast of the Sea, would imply, that the Ro-

man Empire would be the seventh and eighth head or *Ruler* of the Roman Empire. The passage thus rendered is so unintelligible, that Mr. Cuninghame points it out as the most difficult of any in the Apocalypse, and in so doing acts the part of a judicious and faithful expositor of prophecy, whose duty it is, not only to give in every case the best interpretation in his power, but also to point out where there appears any remaining difficulty requiring further explanation. After suggesting the correct interpretation of the passage, referring it to Napoleon instead of to Charlemagne, and to the future revival by him of the title of Emperor of the Romans, by which he would become the eighth head, he being at that time the seventh head as King of Italy, Mr. Cuninghame adds, "In offering these observations, I wish to be understood as speaking with very great diffidence; as the part of the Apocalypse, which has appeared to me most difficult of explanation, is that which relates to the seventh and eighth heads of the Beast. If the difficulty arises from this part of the prophecy not having been yet accomplished, we have no reason to be surprised at it, and we must patiently wait till events shall render it clear." Though Mr. Cuninghame has doubtless obtained the ultimate meaning of

the passage (but not the *full* meaning, for I conceive that Buonaparte will not only revive the *title* of Emperor of the Romans, but will actually make Rome the place of his residence), he has not conjectured the real cause of the difficulty found by him and other commentators, in giving the exact verbal interpretation of it; for this difficulty does not arise from the prophecy's being yet unaccomplished, but from an erroneous interpretation having been given to the symbol of the Beast of the Bottomless Pit, by which means we find the passage is made to represent the *Roman Empire* as becoming a *King*. Whereas, nothing can be more intelligible than this prophecy, when the new meaning of the symbol is adopted, for it then declares, that the *Spiritual Beast of Infidelity* (the Infidel Power of the Apocalypse embodied in an individual), or the *Infidel King of Daniel*, having been the seventh head of the Roman Empire, as King of Italy, will also be the eighth head in another capacity, and probably, therefore, with the title of *Emperor of Rome**.

* This Prophecy, which leads us to infer that Buonaparte will become Emperor of Rome, is so confirmed by other circumstantial prophetic evidence, that I do not hesitate to avow my conviction of the certainty of the event, although he is at this time so situated, as in appearance to render such an event highly improbable—having, however, more than a year ago

Again, in Rev. xi. 7, we read, that “the Beast that ascendeth out of the Bottomless Pit shall kill them,” referring to the Wit-

foreseen and declared, from the Prophetic Writings, the reverses which France would undergo, and which she has since sustained, as well as the termination of her tyrannical career, and the future removal of the Empire of Buonaparte from France to Italy, I see nothing in his present circumstances but what has a direct tendency towards the accomplishment of the Prophecies thus understood. Three or four years will shew how far I am correct in my views, and I wish now to record my opinion, that it may become hereafter an evidence of the clearness and precision of the Prophetic Writings.

Mr. Cuninghame’s theory led him to expect that the military power of France would continue “with awfully increasing energy, till the battle of Armageddon,” and that the French would even recover the disasters of their retreat from Moscow (see Dissert. pages xxi. and 341—343). It was in maintaining the *certainty* of the termination of the strong and tyrannical rule of France, and the consequent *probability* of the then continued success of the Russians, that in the month of April, 1813, I first wrote on the subject of prophecy. (*This note dated 30th April, 1814. Printed 28th May, 1814.*)—1st Edit.

Since the foregoing note was written, Buonaparte has been raised from his state of degradation, to be once more an object of anxiety and terror. It is remarkable, that Mr. Faber, in his fifth edition (published at the same time with my first), speaks also in the strongest terms of his expectation of his future rise. After having stated that he considers the fifth Vial as accomplished, in the reverses sustained by France from the summer of 1803, to the period of his abdication, in the spring of the year 1814, he observes as follows; “Would we know the future fate either of this extraordinary

nesses, who are said, in the same chapter, to have prophesied for 1260 years, which seems to imply, that the Beast that kills the Witnesses

“ man, or at least of his dynasty, we shall find it declared
 “ with sufficient plainness under *the sixth Vial*, which yet re-
 “ mains to be poured out. In that prophecy we are taught,
 “ that, notwithstanding the temporary humiliation of *the*
 “ *imperial head* under *the fifth Vial*, he shall appear again in
 “ full power during the effusion of *the sixth*, which dries up
 “ the waters of the mystic Euphrates, for he then, apparently
 “ by means of the most subtle intrigue, contrives to recover
 “ all his former authority, and to organize a mighty confede-
 “ racy of *the Kings of the Latin earth*. With the troops of
 “ this confederacy he is gathered to Armageddon; and there,
 “ as we are expressly assured, he will be taken and slain, in
 “ strict alliance with *the false Roman prophet*. I pretend not
 “ to say, how soon such a *counter-revolution* will occur; nei-
 “ ther will I presume to determine, whether it will be brought
 “ about by Napoleon himself, or by his son, or by some other
 “ military adventurer who may succeed him as *Emperor of*
 “ *the West*; but *this* is certainly foretold, that *the same last*
 “ *head of the beast*, which experiences so signal a humiliation
 “ under *the fifth Vial*, shall be the sovereign lord of a great
 “ confederacy of vassal Latin kings under *the sixth*. Whence
 “ the inference is obvious, that, if *the Napoleonic Govern-*
 “ *ment* be *the representative of the last head*, as I believe it to
 “ be; it will assuredly rise again, more formidable than ever,
 “ from its present state of depression; though, when it *does*
 “ rise, its triumph will be only short-lived.

“ This not very consolitary anticipation, while the whole
 “ country is rejoicing over the supposed fall of the tyrant,
 “ may perhaps cause me to be greeted with the Homeric
 “ compellation of *μὰντι κακῶν*; such however are the deduc-

will so ascend at the end of the 1260 years, and the passage correctly interpreted, as relating to the Beast of Infidelity, gives a consistency to

“ tions, which necessarily flow from the view that I find
 “ myself compelled to take of the prophecies of Daniel and
 “ St. John.”

Again he says, “ The very recognition of the legitimacy
 “ of his title, will obviously be in itself a tower of strength
 “ to him; and I cannot but think it too plain, that, in this
 “ most impolitic concession, we may distinctly perceive,
 “ that God has turned the council of the allied negotiators
 “ into foolishness. Hovering like an eagle on the coast of
 “ Italy, the now *lawful* Emperor of the West, will serve as
 “ a rallying point to all the discontented. No more will an
 “ obscure adventurer be placed in competition with the
 “ high-born Capets; Italy and France must in future make
 “ their choice between an acknowledged regal Emperor,
 “ who may have been unfortunate, but whose exploits have
 “ been of the most dazzling nature; and a shadow of a king,
 “ who has owed his restoration, not to the choice of his sub-
 “ jects, but to the irresistible mandates of victorious fo-
 “ reign powers. In the mind of a French soldier, the re-
 “ turn of the Bourbons will ever be inseparably coupled
 “ with the disgrace and humiliation of his country; while
 “ his warlike abdicated Emperor, every fault and every
 “ miscarriage blotted out by the tear of pity, will be re-
 “ collected only as the firm-souled warrior; who to the last
 “ contended with the invaders of France, and who ceased
 “ not to struggle for her independence even against the
 “ most fearful odds, until an intimidated senate, with an
 “ enemy at their very gates, passed, by manifest constraint,
 “ the edict of his deposal.”—*Faber's Dissertation, pages*
 405—408, 5th edition.

that general plan and arrangement of the Apocalypse, in which the period of the 30 years of Infidelity is considered as succeeding to the

In the foregoing passages it will be seen, that Mr. Faber speaks of the *dynasty* of Buonaparte, as well as of the individual; this necessarily arises from his fixing the time of the battle of Armageddon (when we both agree, that the INFIDEL POWER will be at the head of all the Papal nations of the Continent), to the year 1866, instead of to the year 1822—3.

It will be observed also, that he appears (as Mr. Cunningham has done), to identify *France* with the Infidel Power, while I distinguish between the future prosperity of Buonaparte, and the future state of that kingdom, considering that *Rome* is hereafter to be his seat of empire, and that the “tyrannical career” of France is terminated; as will appear on a reference to various passages, in my first edition, and to the corresponding passages in this.

And I have now to add, that I strongly suspect that the fifth Vial of Wrath, which is described as poured out upon France, is yet unaccomplished, though on account of the particular and unusual connexion there is between the subjects of the fourth and fifth Vials (*the one relating to Buonaparte as the head of the French Empire, and the other to the kingdom of France itself*), it may be difficult, till events shall make it clear, positively to decide whether the fourth, terminated in the year 1812, or in the year 1814; for, speaking in symbolical language, how shall we now say whether that *darkness* which overtook the French, in October, 1812, and continued till the month of April, 1814, was *the failure of the light, and scorching influence of “the Sun,”* which may be supposed to mark the *termination of the period* of the fourth Vial; or whether it was that grievous “*darkness*”

1260 years of the Papacy during which the Witnesses prophesy clothed in sackcloth.

By the new interpretation of this symbol, which is described (Rev. xvi. 10) as overspreading the kingdom of France, during the period of the succeeding, or fifth Vial.

When a Commentator, however, has translated the symbolical and figurative language of a prophecy, into plain and simple language, he has done all that is peculiarly his province, and there is no doubt (if the interpretation be correct), that when the events predicted have actually occurred, they will be so striking, that no one can easily fail in *correctly* applying them.

The following brief view of the seven Vials, will point out the several subjects of them. Their effusion, it has been already stated, I conceive to be limited to a period of thirty years, commencing in the year 1792, and ending in the year 1822—3. The first Vial (as it is generally admitted) describes the grievous “Sore” of Atheism, which fell upon the Papal nations, in the year 1792, and with the greatest propriety, this Vial introduces the period of the Thirty Years of *Infidelity*.

The second Vial predicts the bloodshed, which should take place in some one principal unbelieving and unfruitful nation; this was accomplished in revolutionary France, during the reign of terror, from September, 1792, to July 1794, when the whole kingdom was converted, as it has been expressed, into one immense slaughter-house. France being the principal theatre of infidelity, this was a severe but just judgment upon her, and its magnitude was evidently such, as to make it a sufficient object of prophecy.—For the interpretation of these two Vials, I am indebted to Mr. Faber.

The third Vial, I conceive, predicts a severe judgment upon

another difficult passage is likewise explained, in which the Beast of the Bottomless Pit is represented as having had a prior existence, and

the Apostate Visible Church, which had so far departed from the faith, as herself, to “shed the blood of saints,” and to become their bitterest persecutor.—This was fulfilled by the campaigns in Italy, in the year 1796—7, and by the overthrow of the Papal government of Rome, in February, 1798.—As the Papacy has so long been the great enemy of the true Church, the importance of the object of this vial, is sufficiently apparent.

The fourth Vial predicts the sufferings of the world, from the power and influence of some one eminent Individual.—This has been fulfilled in the long military despotism of Buonaparte, from the year 1800, to the year 1812, or possibly to the year 1814; who has, in the course of his career, caused an immense destruction of human life, and produced an extraordinary accumulation of misery. The importance of this Vial must be felt by every one.

The fifth Vial foretells a dreadful retribution on the kingdom of France, which, after having been a scourge to other nations, is herself to experience the greatest miseries.—That the horrors of the retreat from Moscow, the battle of Leipsig, and the campaign in France, of the year 1814, have not furnished an adequate accomplishment to this prophecy, I would not take upon myself decidedly to say, although I think not, and for this reason amongst others, because the sufferings of this period fell chiefly upon the French *Army*, whereas the prophecy predicts a most dreadful judgment upon the “*kingdom*” of France itself, “the seat of the “Beast,” out of the bottomless pit, *i. e.*, of the Infidel Power; and I am disposed, from a comparison of this with other prophecies, to believe, that the judgments of this Vial are now about to commence.

is spoken of as “ the Beast that was, and is
 “ not, and is about to ascend out of the bot-
 “ tomless deep, and to go into destruction,”

The sixth Vial foretells the fall of the Ottoman empire in the East, and the increase of the influence of Buonaparte (or of his principles) in the West, preparatory to his being head of the Roman empire.

The seventh Vial foretells a great revolution all over the Papal continent ; the division of the papal Roman empire into three great kingdoms, and other events of the most momentous importance.—In the interpretation of the fourth Vial, as well as of the two first, I agree with Mr. Faber ; I also agree with him in the main, in the interpretation of the symbolical language of the three last ; though the correct application of these, *to events*, remains yet to be decided.

Observing the course of the Vials, hitherto accomplished, it is remarkable, that with the exception of the first, which is of a general and introductory nature, and does not describe a temporal and visible judgment, there has been a regular interval and pause between each. Now the year 1814 has afforded another interval or pause of this kind ; and this leads to the supposition, that some great judgment is about to take place, and whether it is that of the 5th or 6th Vial, and consequently, whether it will affect France, or whether the Ottoman empire in the east, while Buonaparte increases in power and influence in the west, the lapse of a few months, will, I have no doubt, point out.

I have to add, that should it (as I apprehend it will) prove to be the fifth, we must still, from the consideration that but 7 of the 30 years remain, necessarily expect that the pouring out of the sixth Vial, and the fall of the Ottoman empire, will very quickly follow, *i. e.*, will take place in about three or four years.—*This Note dated 8th April, 1815, printed, 18th April, 1815.*

which implies that “ it was,” as *Paganism*, had ceased to be during the period of *Popery*, but was, at the period of the angel’s explanation, “ about to ascend out of the bottomless “ deep,” or to revive as the Beast of *Infidelity*, and to go into *destruction**. And here we may observe, how strongly the passage in which this symbol is introduced, thus explained, confirms that general theory in which the history of the Church is considered as divided into the three successive periods of *Paganism*, *Popery*, and *Infidelity*, and in which the period of *Infidelity* is made to synchronize with that of the *destruction* of the Empire, it being observed, that as *Paganism* and *Infidelity* are, as establishments, joined together, and represented by one symbol, namely, that of the united City called *Sodom* and *Egypt*, so, in their active capacity, they are represented by similar symbols, having only a shade of difference, for we here find, that the *Scarlet-coloured* Beast of *Infidelity* that arose in the year 1792, is represented as being the old *Red Dragon* of *Paganism* revived; and the resemblance between them was, if I mistake not, twenty years ago pointed out by a writer, who first warned the Christian world of the true nature of the then new French principles.

* Rev. xvii. 8. (Archdeacon Woodhouse’s literal translation.)

THE GREAT united CITY, called SODOM and EGYPT, which is here considered as the symbol of Paganism and Infidelity, jointly (as establishments of wide extent and influence) is supposed by Mr. Faber to be the same as the Great City Babylon, but if so, it does not appear why the City should in one particular passage be called by a new name: on the other hand, if it represents Paganism and Infidelity, there appears a great propriety in the description, where the dead bodies of the Witnesses, who are slain by the Beast out of the Bottomless Pit, or by Infidelity, are said in Rev. xi. 8, to lie in the street of this City, rather than in the Great City Babylon, which represents the Papacy. By this interpretation we also obtain an explanation of the remainder of the passage, where, in allusion to the double import of the symbol, it is said, that our Lord was also crucified in *this City*: for he was crucified by *Pagans*: and thus, in the homogenous apocalyptic symbols of the Cities, we again discover the grand divisions of the history of the Church, into the times of Paganism, Popery, and Infidelity.

THE ISRAELITISH NATION, which is supposed to represent the British Nation, affords another instance of an important variation from the meanings usually given to the symbols of

thy Apocalypse ; and it has already been shewn in the preceding pages (15 and 16) of this work, how strongly the passages in which this symbol is introduced, so interpreted, confirm the general plan and arrangement of the Apocalypse which has been adopted.

There are other symbols, in the interpretation of which I differ from Mr. Faber ; and several interpretations which I believe are new ; such as the symbol of the Holy of Holies ; which, instead of being considered as representing the Church during the *future* period of the Millennium, is considered, in conformity to the symbol, as being all along co-existent with the other parts of the Temple, and as representing through all its periods the Church in Heaven : an interpretation which will be found to explain many parts of the machinery of the Apocalypse.

I also interpret differently to other commentators the symbols of the Ten Horns of the Fourth Beast, which are here supposed to represent a territorial division of the Roman Empire into so many parts. The Image of the Beast, the Fourth Part of the Earth, the Four Winds, &c. &c. have also new meanings given to them ; but these, not being intimately connected with the general plan and arrangement of the Apocalypse, need not be here considered.

CHAPTER II.

Daniel's Vision of the Great Image—describing, 1st. The Kingdom of Babylon. 2d. The Kingdoms of Media and Persia. 3d. The Kingdoms that were the Seat of the Macedonian Empire. 4th. The Western Roman Empire, in the Periods of its Strength, Weakness, and Destruction: and, 5th. The Temporal Kingdom of Christ, in the Periods of its Commencement, Progress, and Perfection.

THE first prophecy, in the order of time, which will come under our consideration, is that of the vision of the Great Image, contained in the second chapter of Daniel; the introduction to which is as follows;

Dan. chap. ii. ver. 1. “And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his

spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him. 2. Then the king commanded to call the magicians and the astrologers, and the sorcerers and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. 3. And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream. 4. Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriac, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation. 5. The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill. 6. But if ye shew the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honour: therefore shew me the dream, and the interpretation thereof. 7. They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation of it. 8. The king answered and said, I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me. 9. But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have

prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can shew me the interpretation thereof. 10. The Chaldeans answered before the king and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean. 11. And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with the flesh. 12. For this cause the king was angry, and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. 13. And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

“ 14. ¶ Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the 'captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon. 15. He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel. 16. Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation. 17. Then Daniel went

to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: 18. That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. 19. Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. 20. Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever; for wisdom and might are his: 21. And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: 22. He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. 23. I thank thee and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter. 24. Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; Destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will shew unto the king the interpretation. 25. Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto

him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation. 26. The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof? 27. Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the sooth-sayers, shew unto the king? 28. But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these: 29. As for thee, O King, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass. 30. But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart."

It is worthily of remark, that the founders of the three first great monarchies were all informed by prophecy of those things which immediately related to themselves,

Nebuchadnezzar himself saw this vision in the second year of his reign, or in the year A. C. 603, and was told by Daniel that it was the God of heaven that had given him "a kingdom and power and strength and glory."

Cyrus, the founder of the Medo-Persian empire, was shewn by Daniel the prophecies of Isaiah, in which he was spoken of by name 150 years before he was born; he there found these words addressed to him, "I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me; I girded thee, though thou hast not known me," and he was told, that it was the God of Israel that had "loosed the loins of kings, to open before him the two-leaved gates of brass*."

Alexander, the founder of the Grecian Monarchy, on his arrival at Jerusalem, in prosecuting the war against Darius, King of Persia, was shewn by Jaddua, the High-Priest, the prophecy of Daniel, in which it was pointed out that he should overthrow the Persian monarchy. Being thus shewn that they were the subjects of prophecy, they were taught that "The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will."

The prophecies appear to have been made

* Isa. xlv. 1—7.

known to the founders of the three first great monarchies with this further object, that they might know that the God who strengthened and exalted them was the *God of Israel*, and that they might thence be disposed to shew favour to his church.

To Nebuchadnezzar the revelation was made known for the sake of Daniel, and the Jews, his companions in captivity*. To Cyrus, that he might restore the Jews to their own land, and command the rebuilding of the temple†. To Alexander, that when he came against Jerusalem with the intention of severely punishing its inhabitants, his disposition might be so changed towards them, that he should not only pardon their offence, but receive them into favour, and grant them whatever privileges they desired‡.

Whether the present Ruler of France§, who is the principal individual spoken of in the prophecies relating to the fourth, or Roman empire, has seen any of those which relate to himself, cannot here be determined; but, as the Infidel Power, it is not to be supposed that he

* Dan. ii. 30. † Isa. xlv. 5, 13. Ezra i. 2.

‡ See Prideaux's *Connec.* anno A. C. 332.

§ This commentary on the vision of the Great Image was written at the end of the year 1813, and consequently while Buonaparte was yet Emperor of France.—1st Edit.

would be influenced by them. It is plainly shewn in the prophetic writings, that in these latter days, the interference in behalf of the Church has been of a different nature; for we there find, that the favoured Protestant Nation, which now stands in the place formerly occupied by the Jewish nation as the chosen people of God, is represented as having been taken at the commencement of the present period of trouble under the peculiar protection of the Almighty, and as being throughout this period victorious and successful over its enemies*.

We now proceed to the consideration of the prophecy itself: the first part of king Nebuchadnezzar's dream is thus related to him by Daniel, ver. 31: "Thou, O king, sawest, and
" behold a great image. This great image,
" whose brightness was excellent, stood before
" thee, and the form thereof was terrible. 32.
" This image's head was of fine gold, his
" breast and his arms of silver, and his belly
" and his thighs of brass." And afterwards, in giving the interpretation of this part of the vision, he adds, ver. 37: "Thou, O king, art a
" king of kings: for the God of heaven hath
" given thee a kingdom and power and strength
" and glory. 38. And wheresoever the children

* Rev. vii. 1—9.

“ of mēn dwell, the beasts of the field, and the
 “ fowls of the heaven, hath he given into thine
 “ hand, and hath made thee ruler over them
 “ all. Thou art this head of gold. 39. And
 “ after thee shall arise another kingdom infe-
 “ rior to thee, and another third kingdom of
 “ brass, which shall bear rule over all the
 “ earth.”

As in this vision the same four ruling king-
 doms of the world are represented, that were
 afterwards seen in the vision of the four
 Beasts, and as the Vision of the Ram and the
 He-goat relates also to the second and third of
 these four kingsoms, these several prophecies
 may be advantageously compared together for
 mutual illustration. The three first ruling
 kingdoms are thus described in the vision of
 the four Beasts, Dan. vii. 4: “ The first was
 “ like a Lion, and had eagle’s wings, and I
 “ beheld till the wings thereof were plucked.
 “ —5. And behold, another beast, a second, like
 “ to a Bear, and it raised up itself on one
 “ side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of
 “ it between the teeth of it; and they said
 “ thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.—
 “ 6. And lo another, like a Leopard, which
 “ had upon the back of it four wings of a
 “ fowl; the beast had also four heads, and
 “ dominion was given to it.”

Again, in the Vision of the Ram and the He-goat, the Ram (which answers to the Bear in the vision of the four Beasts) is thus described; Dan. viii. 3 :—" Behold, there stood before the river
" a ram which had two horns, and the two
" horns were high, and the higher came up
" last. 4. I saw the ram pushing westward,
" and northward, and southward, so that no
" beasts might stand before him."—And afterwards in the same vision, the He-goat (which answers to the Leopard in the Vision of the Four Beasts) is seen coming with such swiftness from the west towards the east, that he appears not to touch the ground; he has a notable horn between his eyes, and smites the Ram, and casts him down to the ground and stamps upon him, and it is added, that " when
" he was strong, the great horn was broken,
" and for it came up four notable ones toward
" the four winds of heaven."

These are the several texts which describe the three first ruling kingdoms of the world; and we find that Daniel, in giving the interpretation of the vision of the Great Image, informs King Nebuchadnezzar, that he himself, or the kingdom of Babylon, over which he ruled, is the head of gold.

As the kingdom of Babylon is in this vision represented by Gold, the most precious of me-

tals, so in the parallel vision of the four Beasts, we find it represented by a Lion, the most noble of wild beasts, by the dignity of the emblem employed in both cases, is signified the extent of its dominion, its power, and its riches; thus, Babylon is called in Isaiah, "the golden city," and Nebuchadnezzar is said by Daniel to be "a king of kings."

The territories represented by the head of Gold, and by the Lion, are not to be considered as extending beyond the province of Babylon; though the *dominion* of the kingdom of Babylon (typified by the eagle's wings, that the Lion for a while possessed) extended to other countries, as Syria, Palestine, &c.

If the period of its duration, as the ruling kingdom of the world, be considered as commencing with the destruction of Nineveh, by the Medes and Babylonians, which took place six years before Nebuchadnezzar came to the throne, and as terminating with the taking of Babylon by Cyrus; the whole period would be from the year A. C. 612, to A. C. 539*, being only 73 years.

The second symbol (the breast and arms of Silver) represents the united kingdom of the Medes and Persians, which next succeeded to

* Prideaux's Connec. in loco.

the empire of the world. As silver is inferior to gold, so this kingdom is spoken of by Daniel, as "inferior" to that of Babylon; that is, inferior in point of dignity and riches, though more martial. Thus, in the vision of the four Beasts, we find it represented by the Bear, inferior in dignity to the Lion, but more savage and ferocious. The Bear is represented as having three ribs in his mouth, and as being commissioned to "arise and devour much flesh:" and these three ribs, we learn from the prophecy of the Ram and the He-goat, represent the conquests of the Medes and Persians (typified by the pushings of the Ram) "westward, and northward, and southward;" in which direction the conquests of Cyrus were made*. First, he defeated Cræsus, king of Lydia, and subdued the whole of Asia Minor, which lay in a *westerly* direction—by these victories paving the way also for the submission of Syria and Arabia—next he marched into "the upper," or *northern* "countries of Asia," and lastly marched *southward*, and besieged and took Babylon, which lay also in a *southerly* direction from Ecbatana, the capital of Media, completing, by this last action, the

* Prideaux's *Connec.* anno, 548.

series of his conquests to the West, to the North, and to the South.

The symbols of the breast of Silver in this vision, the Bear in that of the Four Beasts, and the Ram seen in a third vision, all refer to the territories of the united kingdom of Media and Persia alone. Accordingly we find that the symbols of the Bear and of the Ram are represented each as composed of *only two parts*, for the Ram is said to have two horns, of which “the higher came up last;” and the Bear is said to raise himself up on one side, so as to make *one side* higher than the *other*. Media, the most ancient kingdom, is here represented by the first horn of the Ram, and Persia by the horn which came up last, and which eventually became the highest when Cyrus, the Persian, became head of the united kingdoms: which elevation of the Persians above the Medes, is likewise represented when the Bear is seen to raise himself up on one side.

Though the symbol of the Bear refers to the kingdoms of Media and Persia alone, its conquests as before mentioned, extended over many other countries, as Asia Minor, Syria, and Egypt, and all the East, as far as the river Indus. The same observation, of course, applies to the Ram seen in the other vision. If the pe-

riod of the duration of this kingdom, as the ruling kingdom of the world, be considered as commencing with the taking of Babylon by Cyrus, in the year A. C. 539*; and as terminating with the defeat of Darius, the last Persian monarch, in the year A. C. 331*, it will include a period of 208 years.

The next emblem in the vision of the Great Image, is that of the belly and thighs of Brass, representing the kingdom of Alexander the Great, which succeeded to the empire of the world. This kingdom is also in the vision of the Four Beasts, represented by the Leopard, having four heads, and in the vision of the Ram and He-goat, by the He-goat, having eventually four horns.

As brass is inferior to silver, so the kingdom of Alexander is still inferior in dignity to the kingdom of the Medes and Persians which preceded it, but is yet more martial. Thus, in the vision of the four Beasts, the Leopard also may be considered as inferior to the Bear, though it is more fierce and swift in its movements: and the Goat, seen in the third vision, may also be considered as inferior to the Ram, though it is represented as being more warlike and active.

* Prideaux's *Connec.* in loco.

It is said of the Leopard, that “dominion was given to it,” which refers to that dominion which was obtained by Alexander the Great, through his victories over the Persians.

The conquests of Alexander are more particularly described in the vision of the Ram and the He-goat; their rapidity, which was their peculiar characteristic, being typified in the one vision by the Leopard’s having on his back four wings of a swift fowl of the air, and in the other, by the swiftness with which the He-goat was seen to move from the West towards the East; which is described as being so great, that he appeared not to touch the ground.

The kingdom of Alexander was, as is well known, after his death, divided into four minor kingdoms, by four of his captains and successors. These were typified by the four horns of the He-goat; and were first the kingdom of Macedon and Greece; secondly, the kingdom of Thrace and Bythinia; thirdly, the kingdom of Syria, and the East, and fourthly, the kingdom of Egypt. The four heads of the Leopard relate to the same kingdoms; but, being heads and not horns, there is a possibility that they have a particular reference to the four captains of Alexander, as the heads of their respective kingdoms; viz., Cassander, Lysimachus, Seleucus, and Ptolemy, by whom the division was made.

The following several symbols, viz., the belly and the thighs of Brass, seen in the vision of the Great Image; the Leopard, seen in the vision of the four Beasts; and the He-goat, seen in the vision of the Ram and He-goat; equally represent the territories of the kingdom of Alexander the Great, and his Successors; as distinguished from the kingdom of Babylon, and from the united kingdoms of Media and Persia; and comprise the several countries above mentioned, as composing the four kingdoms represented by the four horns, viz., Macedon, &c. Thrace, &c. Syria, &c. and Egypt. The province of Babylon, and the kingdoms of Media and Persia, though conquered by Alexander the Great, are excluded from the four heads of the Leopard, or the four horns of the Goat, because they respectively belonged to the symbols of the Lion, and of the Bear; and the territories east of Persia, extending to the river Indus, are also excluded: for they form no part of the prophetic Earth, or of those territories which are the peculiar subject of prophecy.

If the period of the Macedonian empire be dated from the defeat of Darius, king of Persia, by Alexander the Great, in the year A. C. 331*, and be considered as extending to the

* Prideaux's Connec. in loco?

year A. C. 190*, when Antiochus the Great, king of Syria (the principal of the four kingdoms of the divided Macedonian empire), was defeated by L. Scipio, and made tributary to the Romans, the whole time of this empire would include a period of about 141 years.

We now proceed to the consideration of that part of the prophecy which relates to the fourth kingdom, the seat of the fourth empire ; which has been of far greater importance than those which have preceded it ; both on account of its extent and duration, and also on account of the great events which have taken place during its period ; for the fourth ruling kingdom of the world (which I consider to be the same as what is usually called the *Western Roman empire*) has, in its undivided, and divided state, extended its dominion nearly over the whole prophetic Earth ; and its influence has reached to every part of the world. It was during the period of its dominion, that the most important of all events, *the birth of Our Saviour*, took place ; and that the Gentiles were called into the Church ; blindness having for a season fallen upon the Jewish nation, which, in the time of the three first empires, was the only depository of divine truth.

* Prideaux's *Connec.* in loco.

The fourth kingdom, or the Western Roman Empire, is, we find, again inferior in dignity, but still more martial than those which preceded it; for it is represented in the vision of the Great Image by Iron, inferior to Gold, Silver, and Brass, though stronger: and in the vision of the four Beasts by a Monster, having great iron teeth, which far surpassed in strength and ferocity the three beasts which preceded it. This kingdom was eventually divided into ten minor kingdoms, which are typified by the ten toes of the Image, and the ten horns of the Monster; its territory extends to the west, as far as the kingdom of Great Britain, which is included in it; its northern boundaries are probably the Danube and the Rhine; its southern boundary is the Mediterranean; and its eastern, the Grecian empire.

In examining the prophecies relating to the Western Roman empire, we shall, in conformity to the plan of this work, consider first, the Period of its Strength as one great kingdom; secondly, the Period of its Weakness, when divided into ten kingdoms; and lastly, the Period of its Destruction.

The PERIOD of its STRENGTH, in its undivided state, is described Dan. chap. ii. ver. 33, in these words, "His legs of Iron," the iron typifying the great strength of the empire. In the

interpretation (ver. 40) it is said “ The fourth
 “ kingdom shall be strong as iron, forasmuch
 “ as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth
 “ all things, and as iron that breaketh all
 these” (viz., the Gold, the Silver, and the Brass),
 “ shall it break in pieces and bruise ;” that is,
 it should excel in strength, and overcome the
 kingdom of Babylon, the united kingdom of
 Media and Persia, and the kingdom of Mace-
 don, &c., which had before been represented
 under those three symbols.

Again, in the parallel vision of the Four
 Beasts, Dan. chap. vii. ver. 7, the Western Em-
 pire is thus described in the period of its
 strength: “ Behold, a fourth beast, dreadful
 “ and terrible, and strong exceedingly : and it
 “ had great Iron teeth : it devoured and brake
 “ in pieces, and stamped the residue with the
 “ feet of it ; and it was diverse from all the
 “ beasts that were before it.” This description
 is repeated in verse 19 of the same chapter;
 where it is spoken of “ as the fourth Beast,
 “ which was diverse from all the others, exceed-
 “ ing dreadful ; whose teeth were of iron, and
 “ his nails of brass ; which devoured, brake in
 “ pieces, and stamped the residue with his
 “ feet.” In the passage quoted from the vision
 of the Great Image, and in each of these latter
 verses quoted from the vision of the four

Beasts, we find therefore beautiful and striking descriptions of the power of the fourth kingdom, or Western Roman empire, and of its subduing the other three kingdoms during the period of its strength.

IN the PERIOD of its WEAKNESS, or in its divided state, it is represented in the vision of the Great Image, by “ the feet and toes, part of “ potter’s clay, and part of iron ;” and in the parallel vision of the four Beasts, by the ten horns of the fourth ; which are said to be “ ten “ kings,” or kingdoms, “ that should arise ;” the number of toes agreeing with the number of horns ; and both equally representing ten minor kingdoms, which were formed by a division of the Western Roman empire. The symbols of the feet and toes of the Great Image are afterwards thus explained by Daniel to king Nebuchadnezzar, ver. 41 : “ And whereas thou “ sawest the feet and toes, part of potter’s clay, “ and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided ; but there shall be in it of the strength “ of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron “ mixed with miry clay. 42. And as the “ toes of the feet were part of iron and part of “ clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, “ and partly broken.”

The ten kingdoms of the divided Western Roman empire are represented in these verses

as being some of them strong, and others weak ; and as differing from each other as iron differs from clay ; and we find the contrast between these two classes of kingdoms yet more strikingly pointed out in verse 43 ; where it is said by Daniel to king Nebuchadnezzar, in explaining the vision, “ Whereas, thou sawest iron
 “ mixed with miry and clay, they shall mingle
 “ themselves with the seed of men : but they
 “ shall not cleave one to another, even as iron
 “ is not mixed with clay :” by which we understand, that though the strong and powerful kingdoms should be mingled with the base and inferior kingdoms (called as a term denoting weakness and inferiority, “ the seed of men,” lying mixed together with them as the broken pieces of the Western Roman empire ; they should not “ cleave together,” or assimilate ; but should be perfectly distinct and separate characters ; there should appear in the strong kingdoms all the iron, all the strength and tyranny of the old Roman empire, but none of the weakness of the inferior kingdoms of clay.

In this part we shall first inquire which are the ten kingdoms represented by the ten toes of the Image ; and the ten horns of the fourth Beast ; and then proceed to arrange them into the two classes of iron and clay.

In endeavouring to decide the important

question, which are the ten kingdoms interested in the prophecy of Daniel, we should consider what are the chief subjects of prophecy ; and we must conclude, that these are, first, the testimony of Jesus Christ* ; secondly, the history of his Church ; and thirdly, the history of the kingdoms of this world, as connected with his Church.

The prophecy of Daniel every one considers as reaching to the end ; we may therefore expect to find mentioned in it those modern nations of the divided Roman empire, in whose revolutions and actions the Church of Christ has been the most interested ; and amongst these we must necessarily class Rome, the seat of that great enemy of the Church, who is the principal subject of Daniel's vision of the four Beasts. Great Britain, the chief supporter of the Protestant cause, and the principal seat of the true Church, we must suppose also to be noticed in prophetic history ; as well as Austria, the head of the Germanic empire ; and France and Spain, who have been the cruel persecutors of the Saints. The prophecy of the four Beasts also teaches us, that three of these ten kingdoms are taken possession of by the spiritual Horn ; of which three, Rome is evidently one. We,

* Rev. xix. 10.

therefore, in addition to those above named, are directed to look for two, which united to Rome, became the property of the Pope ; and formed the territories of the Church.

But though we should probably be correct in thus fixing upon seven out of the ten kingdoms, some principle of interpretation is to be sought for, by which we may precisely ascertain the complete number of the kingdoms typified by the ten horns.

And here we must be guided by what we find in other parts of the prophetic writings, and argue from analogy.

- We have already seen, in the emblems representing the four kingdoms which obtained successively the empire of the world, the accuracy with which they are described as *territorial divisions* of the whole prophetic Earth, and that their territories are obviously designed to be kept perfectly *distinct* and *separate* one from the other.

For instance, because the kingdom of Babylon formed the first Beast; and Asia Minor, with Upper Asia, formed together part of the third Beast ; these three provinces are decidedly *excluded from the second Beast*, and are represented as three ribs in the mouth of the Bear, or flesh that he had seized to devour ; the representation pointing out, that these three pro-

vinces would be overrun and subdued by the Medes and Persians.

Again, in the vision of the Ram and the He-goat, the second ruling kingdom of the world, as there described, evidently consisted of *only two parts, viz.*, of Media and Persia, which were typified by the two horns of the Ram, of which the higher came up last.

It appears, also, in considering the symbol of the fourth Beast representing the kingdom of the Romans, that it does not include Babylon, Media, and Persia, or the four minor kingdoms of the Macedonian empire; for these territories (the greater part of which afterwards formed the Eastern Roman empire) are called "*the residue*," which the ten-horned Beast is represented as conquering, or stamping with his feet.

We shall see likewise when the destruction of the latter days is spoken of, that it is said Dan, ii. 35, "Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver and the gold, broken to pieces *together*, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors;" from which description we must conclude, that the gold, the silver, the brass, the iron, and the clay, represent *territorial divisions*; for they cannot be considered as severally representing the Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Macedonian, and Roman Empires, *each in its full extent*, because the

three first have not in these latter days any existence.

Again we shall find in the vision of the four Beasts, it is said, that the lives of the three first Beasts were “prolonged for a season and a time” after they had their “*dominion,*” or empire, taken away. By which is described the state of the countries represented by the three first Beasts, from the period when they ceased to be the seat of empire, to that in which they will become the seat of the Church, and part of the universal kingdom of Christ: and we may here again observe, that the four ruling kingdoms of the world are described as *territorial divisions* of the prophetic Earth; for they are clearly spoken of as being *only for a certain period the seat of empire*, and as being *distinct from each other*, and *co-existent*.

As it thus appears that the four ruling kingdoms of the world exhibit a *territorial division* of the whole prophetic “Earth” (or of that part of the world which is the subject of prophecy) into four parts, so we may further observe that the horns upon the bodies of the second and third Beasts represent *territorial subdivisions* of the second and third ruling kingdoms.

The first ruling kingdom of the world consisted only of the single province of Babylon, the first Beast therefore has no symbol of this kind attached to it.

The second ruling kingdom consisted of two territorial subdivisions, namely, of the provinces of Media and Persia, the Ram, therefore is represented as having *two* horns.

The whole of the third ruling kingdom of the world, or the kingdom of Alexander the Great, was subdivided a few years after his death, that is, in the year A. C. 301, into four parts, by four of his captains and successors ; and the He-goat is consequently represented as having *four* horns ; and the rise of these horns is universally dated from the year in which this division took place.

In endeavouring to interpret the part of prophecy now under consideration, we are directed therefore by the analogy of all preceding prophecies to look for a similar *territorial subdivision* of the Western Roman empire into *ten* kingdoms, which we are to consider as having each a peculiar territory of its own, into which is not to be reckoned its conquests over the territories of others. Accordingly we find, that the Western Roman empire, as bounded on the north by the Danube and the Rhine, is divisible exactly into ten parts, all of which, excepting two that perished early, have existed for nearly the whole period of the divided state of the empire. Of these, the three first are Lombardy, which was the seat of a powerful kingdom;

142 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

Ravenna, which was the seat of the Exarch, who ruled over a great part of Italy ; and Rome, which was formerly the seat of empire. The addition of Naples and Tuscany to these three, forms a complete territorial division of Italy into five parts : the five other kingdoms are France, Austria, Spain, Portugal, and Britain. The *ten* forming together a complete territorial division of the Roman Empire, are therefore as follows :

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1 RAVENNA, | } | forming the Papal States. |
| 2 LOMBARDY, | | |
| 3 ROME, | | |
| 4 NAPLES. | | |
| 5 TUSCANY. | | |
| 6 FRANCE. | | |
| 7 AUSTRIA. | | |
| 8 SPAIN. | | |
| 9 PORTUGAL. | | |
| 10 BRITAIN. | | |

As no other ten kingdoms can be named on the principle of a territorial division, if this, as we have every reason to suppose, is the correct principle on which the prophecy of Daniel should be interpreted, we may assume with confidence that these are the ten kingdoms referred to in his prophecy ; we shall find like-

wise that they answer to all the particulars mentioned of them in the remainder of the vision of the Great Image : and in the parallel prophecy of the four Beasts. These particulars are, that the papal horn took possession of three of them ; that they are divisible into two classes, the strong and the weak, the Iron and the Clay ; and that all excepting two (which we are informed by prophecy perished early, by being united to Rome) should be in existence when the period of the destruction of the empire commenced ; for we are told, that the stone smote upon *the feet and toes* of the image.

Having named the ten kingdoms, I now proceed to divide them into the two classes of the kingdoms of iron, and the kingdoms of clay. The kingdoms of iron I consider to be three, viz., France, Rome, and Austria ; and the kingdoms of clay to be seven, namely, Ravenna, Lombardy, Naples, Tuscany, Spain, Portugal, and Britain.

With respect to the character of the three first, as tyrannical kingdoms, I shall have to shew hereafter, in considering other prophecies, that though always great, either in extent, or importance, they are in the prophetic writings said to remain comparatively in a state of rest, till after the commencement of the last period, or till after the year 1792. France, which is

represented in one of these prophecies as the first that wakes or starts into new life, it will be allowed has, since its rise as Imperial France, been a tyrannical empire, and of a different class from all others of the divided Western Roman empire which have yet appeared. France, therefore, being the only iron kingdom whose character has yet been developed, we can speak of the fulfilment of this prophecy no further than as it has been accomplished in her tyrannical reign, under her present ruler* ; and here the accomplishment appears most striking ; a very few years also will shew whether I am correct in expecting the complete fulfilment of it in the future tyrannical reigns of Rome and of Austria. The successive tyrannical reigns of these three great kingdoms belong however to the next period, namely, to that of the Destruction of the Roman empire ; but I mention in this place the tyranny then exercised by them, in order clearly to establish the character of France as one of the kingdoms represented by the iron toes of the Great Image.

The period of the **DESTRUCTION** of the Wes-

* The reader is requested to bear in mind, that this interpretation of the vision of the Great Image was written in the year 1813, while Buonaparte was Emperor of France. 1st Edit.

tern Roman empire, and the first period of the Temporal kingdom of Christ, is thus described to King Nebuchadnezzar, Dan. ii. 34: "Thou
" sawest till that a stone was cut out without
" hands, which smote the image upon his feet
" that were of iron and clay, and brake them to
" pieces," which is afterwards thus interpreted: ver. 44: "In the days of these kings shall the
" God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall
" never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall
" not be left to other people, but it shall break
" in pieces and consume all these kingdoms,
" and it shall stand for ever. 45. Forasmuch
" as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of
" the mountain without hands, and that it
" brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay,
" the silver, and the gold; the great God hath
" made known to the king what shall come to
" pass hereafter."

The Stone here represents the Temporal kingdom of Christ, and, by its smiting upon the feet and toes of the Image, is described the destruction of the kingdoms of the Western Roman empire, which takes place upon its first establishment. It is shewn in the representation, and it is also expressly declared, that the smiting of the stone will take place "in the days of *these kings*," namely, of the ten kingdoms of Iron and Clay. This prophecy

therefore requires, that the ten kingdoms of Daniel should be considered as in existence when the reign of the Stone commences, those two of course being excepted which we have before observed are said to fall early, being united to Rome, and with it becoming the property of the little spiritual Horn; and we find that eight out of the ten kingdoms, named upon the principle of a territorial division of the Western Roman empire, were actually in existence as separate kingdoms, and in their *ordinary* state, in the year 1792; in which year there is every reason to believe, that the smiting of the Stone commenced; for the nations of the continent have, since that period, been breaking to pieces, and have been visited by such awful judgments as were never before witnessed: France, Rome, Naples, Tuscany, Austria, Portugal, and Spain, the seven Roman-Catholic kingdoms, having all of them fallen one after the other, and in the order in which they are here mentioned; and though France and Austria have revived, as Imperial France, and Imperial Austria; and Rome, there is reason to think, will revive again as Imperial Rome; it will only be to complete the work of destruction which is still going on.

The Protestant country of Great Britain has alone escaped these judgments; and the cause

of her being thus mercifully exempted from them, will be learnt from the vision of the four Beasts, where we are told that they are inflicted on account of the superstition and idolatry of the Papacy; for the fourth Beast, or Western Roman empire, is there said to be destroyed, "because of the voice of the words "against the Most High, which the little (Papal) Horn spake." This destruction of the nations, during the reign of the Stone (commencing in the year 1792), is also unquestionably referred to in the beautiful and sublime prophecy respecting the kingdom of the Messiah, contained in the second Psalm, where Christ is thus addressed: "Yet have I set my king
" upon my holy hill of Zion. Ask of me, and
" I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth
" for thy possession. Thou shalt break them
" with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in
" pieces like a potter's vessel;" for there is no other period than that of the reign of the Stone to which this prophecy can apply; the Papacy, the enemy of the Church of Christ, being till then triumphant; and the kingdom of Christ, when fully established upon earth, being described by Isaiah, and all the prophets, as a kingdom of perfect peace and righteousness. The important event of the ruling of the na-

tions with a rod of iron, will also be found to be spoken of in Revelations ii. 27. xii. 5, and xix. 15.

It is said that the Stone, which smites upon the feet and toes of the Image, is cut out without hands; because the Temporal Kingdom of Christ is in this period invisible, being visible only in its effects; and again, because it is of divine origin, and established without any human aid. So, in Isaiah, our Saviour is represented as declaring, "I have trodden the Wine-press alone, and of the people, there was none with me, therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me:" the treading of the wine-press here spoken of, referring to the great and final destruction of the enemies of Christ, which takes place when the thirty years of the reign of the Stone terminates.

The prophecy of the vision of the Great Image thus proceeds; ver. 35, "Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors, and the wind carried them away, and no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."

The total destruction of the kingdoms of this world, which takes place upon the esta-

blishment of the kingdom of Christ, is described under the strongest figures. In the vision of the four Beasts, it is said to be by fire, which so destroys, as to leave no vestige of that which is consumed; for the body of the Beast is said to be "given to the burning flame." And in the passage now before us, the kingdoms of the world are represented as completely annihilated, so that "no place was found for them." The Earth will be utterly beaten to powder at the presence of God. When he enters into judgment with the nations of the earth, they will be found lighter than vanity: the wicked are like the chaff which the wind scattereth away from the face of the earth: the apostate nations will be made as the dry chaff of the summer threshing-floor; they will be as nothing, and the wind of divine wrath will carry them away, and their place will no more be found.

From this and similar awful descriptions of the events of the last days, there is every reason to believe that, by judgments still more dreadful than those which have, for the space of twenty-two years, been inflicted upon the continent, the Papal nations will be completely destroyed: and that these judgments, extending also to the Eastern Roman empire, will equal in severity those inflicted upon the Ca-

150 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

naanitish nations by the children of Israel, previously to their establishment in the Holy Land, when they were commanded to leave no soul alive*.

The whole of the Roman empire being thus destroyed, and every thing that opposes itself being removed, the Temporal Kingdom of Christ will be established, and will stand for ever.

The period, during which the Stone becomes great, is the period of the Progress of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, and consists of the forty-five years discoverable in the last chapter of Daniel. These forty-five years are to be reckoned from the complete destruction of the Infidel and Papal Powers, which takes place at the end of the preceding period of thirty years. During this period of forty-five years the kingdom of Christ will extend in every direction, and finally embrace the whole world.

THE PERIOD, during which the Mountain fills the whole earth, is the period of the MILLENNIUM, or that glorious time when Christ shall reign with his Saints upon earth. Then will be fulfilled what is spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon

* Deut. xx. 16, 17.

“ the throne of David and upon his kingdom,
“ to order it and to establish it with judgment
“ and with justice, from henceforth, even for
“ ever.”

*Remarks upon the Interpretations given by
former Commentators of the vision of the
Great Image, and of the other visions, in
which the four great Empires are repre-
sented.*

I am gratified to find, that I have such high authority as that of Sir Isaac Newton, for having, in the foregoing interpretation of the vision of the Great Image, and in the observations which have been made upon the vision of the four Beasts, considered each of the symbols of the four Metals, and each of the parallel symbols of the four Beasts, as representing a territory peculiar to itself.

Sir Isaac observes, that “ the nations of
“ Chaldea and Assyria are still the first Beast ;
“ those of Media and Persia are still the se-
“ cond Beast ; those of Macedon, Greece,
“ Thrace, Asia Minor, Syria, and Egypt, are
“ still the third ; and those of Europe on this
“ side Greece, are still the fourth.” But Mr.

Faber, in quoting the foregoing passage from the work of Sir Isaac, objects to the principle, by which a precise line of distinction is thus supposed to be drawn between the territories which were severally the seats of the four great Empires; observing, that “the countries of Asia Minor, Syria, and Egypt, cannot be considered as forming an exclusive part of the third Beast, because they were originally provinces belonging to the second Beast,” that is to the Bear*. But Sir Isaac and Bishop Newton evidently understand (as they necessarily must, in considering the four Beasts as representing a territorial division of the prophetic Earth into four parts), that these provinces did *not* belong to the symbol of the Bear. Mr. Faber, therefore (as it appears to me), here only rejects the theory of Sir Isaac, but does not advance any thing in support of his own system.

The arguments that may be adduced in favour of Sir Isaac Newton’s hypothesis, have been already briefly stated†. But as Mr. Faber, in controverting this hypothesis, has particularly spoken of the second Beast, as representing, not only the kingdoms of Media and

* See Faber’s Dissertation, vol. i. in 3d edit. p. 205—208. 4th edit. p. 232—238. 5th edit. p. 229—232.

† See preceding pages 133—136.

Persia, but the Medo-Persian Empire, extending to its utmost limits, including in it the countries of Asia Minor, Syria, Egypt, &c., I shall reconsider the symbols relating to this empire somewhat more at length.

Now it is allowed by Mr. Faber, as well as by all other commentators, that the two horns of the Ram, of which the last became the highest, represent severally the kingdoms of Media and Persia ; and, as the Ram has no more than two horns, the natural deduction is, that the representation is *limited* to the kingdoms of Media and Persia ; for we can hardly, consistently with the propriety of symbolical representation, suppose, that the subordinate parts of an empire, or the provinces conquered by the Medes and Persians, as Asia Minor, Syria, and Egypt, would be represented by the actual body of the Ram, while the principal provinces, as Media and Persia, containing the seat of government, are represented only by its two horns. To decide this we have, however, an opportunity of a reference to a parallel vision, where the symbol, which answers to that of the Ram, is not an horned beast, but a Bear ; here the two provinces of Media and Persia are represented by the two sides of the Bear. And, as we must in this instance consider the two halves of the symbol as occupied by these two

provinces, every other object is consequently excluded from the representation.

But not only do we thus prove, that the provinces conquered by the Medes and Persians cannot possibly, as Mr. Faber supposes, be included in the symbols of the Bear and of the Ram ; but, if I may be allowed to use a forensic term, we prove also an alibi with respect to these provinces, and shew them in the mouth of the Bear ; for the three ribs there seen “ in “ the mouth of it, between the *teeth* of it,” are such appropriate symbols of the conquered provinces, subjected to the domination and tyrannical power (or as Bishop Newton expresses it, the *grinding oppression*) of the Medes and Persians ; and again, this interpretation of the symbols of the Ribs *between the teeth* of the Bear, is so strongly supported by a similar description given of the fourth Beast, which is represented as having great iron *teeth*, with which it *devours* and breaks in pieces, that is, *conquers* and destroys, and which is afterwards again spoken of as *devouring* “ the whole earth,” which must unquestionably mean *conquering* the whole earth ; that I think there can be no doubt that the commission given to the Bear to arise and “ *devour much flesh*,” was a commission given to the Medes and Persians to go forth and make *conquests* ; or that the flesh, i. e.,

the three Ribs, seen in its mouth, represent, according to the interpretation of Sir Isaac and Bishop Newton, provinces, "which were *conquered* by it, but were not properly parts and "members of its body."

I might here observe, that much of the beauty of the representation which consists in a great degree in its minute accuracy, would be lost in those prophecies which relate to the four great empires, if we were not to consider each of the four symbols as referring to a territory peculiar to itself. And in the instance before us, were I to adopt the principle advanced by Mr. Faber, "that the four Beasts themselves are the four "great empires considered as respectively extending to their several *utmost* limits," including therefore all their conquests, I should be totally at a loss how to interpret the symbols of the *three ribs*, which he appears also himself to leave unexplained.

Sir Isaac Newton, Bishop Chandler, and Bishop Newton, consistently with their hypothesis, consider them as representing the *conquests* of the Medes and Persians over Lydia, Babylon, and Egypt. In their interpretation of these symbols, I find therefore that I have partially, but not exactly, followed them; thinking it necessary on the principle of analogy, that these symbols should be interpreted so as to answer

to the pushings “ westward, northward, and “ southward” of the Ram, and should be limited to the first conquests by Cyrus, through which the Medo-Persian empire was established, or “ became great.” I consequently exclude Egypt, which was not conquered till a later period, or till the reign of Cambyses, and adopt Armenia, or the *Northern* parts of Asia, instead of it; which is referred to by the pushing northward of the Ram, and which is particularly mentioned by Prideaux, as being conquered by Cyrus after Lydia, and before Babylon.

In the latter part of the interpretation of this prophecy, I am, I fear, without the support of the high authorities I have quoted; for I do not find that they, or any of my predecessors, have extended the principle of a *territorial* division to the interpretation of the symbols of the ten toes of the Image, and the ten horns of the fourth Beast; which, it is agreed, represent ten minor kingdoms, formed on the division of the Western Roman empire.

It becomes therefore necessary, in conformity to the plan upon which I have proposed to proceed, and from the consideration that there can be but one true interpretation of every prophecy, that I should now state upon what grounds I consider the various expositions which have been given by former writers of this important

part of prophecy to be unsatisfactory and inadmissible.

Bishop Newton introduces the following lists of the ten kingdoms into his work, as being those of the most approved commentators, in whose general principles of interpretation he agrees; although, in order to include Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome, he names the kingdoms himself as existing at a later period than has been chosen by others.

The list of Bishop Chandler and Bishop Lloyd (which has been adopted also by Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame) contains the following kingdoms:—

- 1 Burgundians, in Burgundy.
- 2 Franks, in France.
- 3 Heruli and Turingi, in Italy,
- 4 Huns, in Hungary.
- 5 Lombards upon the Danube, and afterwards in Italy.
- 6 Ostrogoths, in Mæsia.
- 7 Saxons and Angles, in Britain.
- 8 Sueves and Alans, in Gascoine and Spain.
- 9 Vandals, in Africa.
- 10 Visigoths, in Pannonia.

Mr. Mede reckons up the ten kingdoms thus, as they are supposed to have appeared in the year 456, the year after Rome was sacked by

Genseric, King of the Vandals. Here it will be seen, that *three* kingdoms named in the preceding list are omitted, and others are substituted in their place.

- 1 Burgundians, in France.
- 2 Franks.
- 6 Ostrogoths, whom the Longobards succeeded in Pannonia, and afterwards in Italy.
- 7 Saxons, in Britain.
- 8 Sueves and Alans in Gallicia and Portugal.
- 9 Vandals, in Africa.
- 10 Visigoths, in south of France and part of Spain.
- [3] Alemanes, in Germany.
- [4] Britons.
- [5] Greeks.

The list of Sir Isaac Newton is as follows:—

- 1 The kingdom of the Burgundians.
- 2 The kingdom of the Franks.
- 4 The kingdom of the Huns.
- 5 The kingdom of the Lombards.
- 7 The kingdom of the Britons.
- 8 The kingdom of the Suevians, in Spain.
- 9 The kingdom of the Vandals and Alans, in Spain and Africa.
- 10 The kingdom of the Visigoths.

[3] The kingdom of the Alans, in Gallia.

[6] The kingdom of Ravenna.

The following is the list of Bishop Newton ; the kingdoms are here named from a later period of the Western Roman Empire, than has been fixed upon by other commentators, which occasions the great variation perceptible between his list and the foregoing.

1 Burgundians, in Burgundy.

2 Franks, in France.

4 Huns, in Hungary.

5 Lombards in Lombardy.

7 Saxons, in Britain.

[3] Alemanes, in Germany.

[6] Britons.

[8] Goths, in Spain.

[9] Greeks, in Ravenna.

[10] The Senate of Rome, " who revolted from
" the Greek Emperors, and claimed
" and exerted the privilege of choosing
" a new Western Emperor."

The first observation to be made on these lists is, that even the first three, which are equally formed with reference to an early period of the divided Roman empire, are yet found to vary from each other.

This Bishop Newton accounts for as arising from " the great disorder and confusion of the

“ times: one kingdom falling, and another
“ rising, and scarce any subsisting for a long
“ while together ;” from which representation of the unsettled state of the Western Roman empire, at the time the ten kingdoms are supposed to have been formed, it appears evident, that if we consider them, according to the usual interpretation, as falling upon any successful invasion by a foreign power, it cannot be decided with any certainty which are the ten kingdoms referred to by the prophet.

We seem therefore, in the very outset of our examination, to have arrived at the conclusion, that if we would name with any certainty the ten kingdoms of Daniel, they must be considered as formed on the principle of *a territorial division* of the Western Roman empire, when they will be supposed still to continue to exist, *through all their changes*, as long as their territories are kept distinct from each other, and remain the seats of separate governments.

It will be observed also, that I shall name the ten kingdoms, with reference to a later period than other commentators have done, for I do not consider the second period of the Roman Empire (*i. e.*, its completely divided and weak state) to have *commenced* till the beginning of the seventh century ; when the Roman

emperors, who had recovered Italy on the expulsion of the Ostrogoths from it, had again lost the supreme authority in that country from the invasion of the Lombards; and it was, as is well known, divided into several Dukedoms: the Greek Emperor possessing the Exarchate of Ravenna.

But we will now examine whether any of these lists are satisfactory, by inquiring first whether the various kingdoms named in them can be considered as of sufficient importance to fill so prominent a place in prophetic history, as that occupied by the ten horns of the fourth Beast of Daniel; and secondly, how far their histories actually correspond with all the particulars which are mentioned of these ten horns, either by Daniel or Saint John.

If we examine the first list (or that most generally adopted) with regard to the importance of the kingdoms therein named, we shall find it to be very unsatisfactory in this respect, for the kingdom of the Heruli was overthrown after having been established in Italy only seventeen years.

The kingdom of the Visigoths in Spain, is considered also to have ended in the year 714, when Spain was conquered by the Saracens—and in short, with the exception of France (which fell in the year 1792), the period of Da-

niel's prophecy, as far as relates to the ten kingdoms, has, according to the usual interpretations of it, been long passed by.

Thus, Mr. Faber observes, in reference to his list of the ten kingdoms, that the "Franks or French are the only people of Europe who can deduce a perpetual succession from the conquerors of the Western Empire*," and remarks again, that "the original kingdom of the Angles cannot be considered as being at present in existence, the line of succession having been broken both by the Danish and Norman conquests:" and in another place he observes, that "as for specifying what powers are now the ten horns, he cannot but consider it as absurd to attempt it."

The Burgundians, the Huns, the Saxons, the Vandals, the Sueves, and the Visigoths, existed also at a comparatively unimportant period of the Roman empire; and their histories are connected in a very inferior degree with the history of the Church.

On the other hand we shall find that Rome, which is a kingdom of the first importance, as being the seat of that great enemy of the Church, who is the principal object of Daniel's vision of the four Beasts, is itself overlooked in the inter-

* Faber's Dissert. vol. i. 3d ed. p. 150, 4th ed. p. 176.

pretations usually given of that prophecy, for it is not considered by Mr. Faber and others as one of the ten kingdoms represented by the ten horns.

If we should ask where is Britain mentioned in prophecy, that has so long been the principal seat of the true Church, and the great upholder of the Protestant cause ; and which is the nation to whom, above all others, peculiar mercy has been shewn : we are told that it has no place in the prophecy of Daniel ; that the kingdom of the Saxons in Britain was one of the ten kingdoms, but that it perished at the time of the Norman conquest, and that Britain never therefore had a place in prophetic history, as one of these kingdoms, but when it was a barbarous nation, and of no political importance.

As the vision of the Great Image, and of the four Beasts of Daniel, reach however to the time of the end, we must naturally suppose that they refer to the present long established kingdoms of the Western Roman empire ; and that the transcendently important events of the present day, in which they are concerned, are above all others likely to be the subjects of these prophecies. It can hardly therefore be thought that any one of these lists, containing the names chiefly of barbarous nations, which are at this

time nearly forgotten, is a true list of the ten kingdoms of Daniel. This will more clearly appear if we now proceed, in the second place, to consider how far the histories of these nations correspond with those particulars which are related of the ten Horns in the prophecies of Daniel and Saint John.

In the vision of the four Beasts it is said, that three of the ten horns should be "*plucked up by the roots before*" the little papal horn: should "*fall before it*:" and should "*be subdued by it*:" implying, when correctly interpreted, that three of the ten kingdoms should be taken possession of by the Papacy. Accordingly Mr. Mede, Bishop Newton, and Sir Isaac, equally understand the acquisition of temporal sovereignty by the Papacy to be the particular subject of this prophecy, and refer it to the Pope's obtaining possession of Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome, which have for more than a thousand years formed the papal territories; they are however much puzzled to make this interpretation accord with their lists of the ten kingdoms. Mr. Mede tries to effect it by calling Ravenna "*the kingdom of the Greeks*;" by considering Lombardy as a continuation of "*the kingdom of the Ostrogoths*;" and by calling Rome "*the kingdom of the Franks*," "*continued in the empire of Germany*:"

Rome being nominally at least subject to Charlemagne and his successors. To this interpretation, however, Bishop Newton and Mr. Faber justly object, that though Ravenna and Rome were seized by the Papacy, the *Greek and German empires* cannot be said to have been *plucked up by the roots* before the little Horn.

Sir Isaac Newton agrees that the three kingdoms are Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome, observing that “it was certainly by the victory of
“ the See of Rome over the Greek Emperor,
“ the King of Lombardy, and the Senate of
“ Rome, that she acquired Peter’s patrimony,
“ and rose up to her greatness* :” of which interpretation Bishop Newton approves, admitting that “the three kingdoms which he (Sir Isaac
“ Newton) proposeth were plucked up by the
“ roots, were totally subdued by the Popes,
“ and possessed as parts of Peter’s patrimony :
“ but then,” he observes, “it may be objected,
“ that only two of the three are mentioned in
“ his (Sir Isaac Newton’s) first catalogue of
“ the ten kingdoms, the Senate and Dukedom
“ of Rome being not included in the number :”
though “there were not only *three horns* to be
“ plucked up before the little horn, but *three*
“ *of the first horns.*”

* Vide Bishop Newton’s *Dissertations*, vol. i. chap. xiv.

Bishop Newton therefore himself proposes a list of the ten kingdoms, taken “as they stood in the eighth century, and therein,” he observes, “are comprehended the three states or kingdoms which constituted the Pope’s dominions, and which” he conceives “to be the same as Sir Isaac Newton did, viz., the Exarchate of Ravenna, the kingdom of the Lombards, and the state of Rome.”

Mr. Faber, considering it as impracticable to include Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome, in the list of the ten kingdoms, names the three horns very differently from his predecessors, for he considers them to be “the kingdoms of the Heruli, the Ostrogoths, and the Lombards, successively eradicated before the little papal horn, which at length became a *temporal* no less than a *spiritual* power, at the expense of these three depressed primary states*.”

Thus we see that Mr. Faber agrees with Bishop Newton, Sir Isaac, and Mr. Mede, that the acquisition of a *temporal* sovereignty by the Papacy—that most important event in its history—is the object of the prophecy; though there is this difference in his interpretation, that he refers the fall of the two first horns to circumstances which had no direct connexion with

* Faber’s Dissert. vol. 1. 3d ed. p. 194. 4th ed. p. 22. 5th ed. p. 217.

this assumption of temporal power : the Heruli, for instance, the first named of the three, having been expelled from Italy between two and three hundred years before the Pope became a temporal sovereign.

We must however consider prophecy as too concise and striking in its descriptions to be ever justly referred to events so remotely connected with its object ; and besides this, the expressions that three of the horns should be *plucked up by the roots before the Papacy*, that three should *fall before it*, and be *subdued by it*, point out, it appears to me, as strongly as any expressions can do, the active agency of the little Horn in these transactions ; for when we read of one person falling *before* another, we naturally understand it to mean that he falls *by* him ; and if there were any doubt whether the word is used in this sense in the present instance, the phrase that the little Horn “ shall “ subdue three kings,” would put it out of all question.

Mr. Faber makes the following observations upon the vision, which are accommodated to his interpretation of it.

“ With respect to the vision, the appearance,” he observes, “ which presented itself to Daniel, “ seems to have been this. While the prophet “ was contemplating *the ten horns of the beast*,

“ he beheld *an eleventh little horn*, gradually,
 “ and as it were by stealth, springing up
 “ amongst them. As *this little horn* was
 “ slowly arising, *three of the first ten horns*,
 “ which were ‘ before it,’ or in its immediate
 “ vicinity, so as by their position to obstruct its
 “ growth, were successively eradicated, and
 “ fell prostrate at its feet. Every obstacle
 “ being thus removed, *the little horn* attained
 “ its full growth; and occupied the place
 “ which had been before occupied by *the three*
 “ *eradicated horns*.

“ Such apparently was the action of the
 “ symbols; upon which the interpreting angel
 “ observes, that *an eleventh kingdom* should
 “ arise behind *the first ten kingdoms*, and
 “ should depress *three of them**.”

Now admitting that the representation might
 be thus modified, so as to exclude that *more*
 active agency of the little papal Horn, which I
 conceive the words of the text to imply; yet
 we must infer, even from Mr. Faber’s descrip-
 tion as here given, that the three Horns were
 eradicated in consequence of the *progressive*
growth of the Papacy; for we must suppose
 that some cause of the fall of the three Horns
 was apparent to the Prophet; and the repre-
 sentation, even thus modified, is therefore of

* Faber’s Dis. 3d ed. vol. i. p. 190. 4th p. 217. 5th p. 214.

course inapplicable to the expulsion of the Heruli from Italy, which took place A. D. 493, forty years before the earliest received date of the commencement of the 1260 years ; and at a period when the Papacy had no influence in temporal affairs, nor could indeed be considered as having any existence at all as an apostate spiritual power.

Neither can I see that Mr. Faber's introduction of the new reading, that the little papal horn shall "*depress*" three kings instead of shall "*subdue*" three kings, contributes much towards his object of excluding its active agency in these transactions.

And here I cannot omit pointing out the singular circumstance, that although Mr. Faber judiciously considers the Papacy as the principal object of the prophecy of the four Beasts, and should, consistently with this view of his subject, endeavour to trace throughout his examination the closest connexion with the Papacy ; he finds himself obliged, in order to preserve the consistency of his interpretation of the ten kingdoms, to exclude in the present instance that active agency of the little papal Horn, which the words of the text seem so strongly to imply.

I must add, that Mr. Faber criticises, as it appears to me, with undue severity, that part of

Bishop Newton's work, in which this prophecy is, I think, correctly interpreted to have been fulfilled by the Pope's obtaining the temporal sovereignty of Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome. "We ought," he observes, in reference to this interpretation of Bishop Newton, "first to learn
 " what these ten original horns were, and next
 " inquire whether three of them were ever
 " plucked up to make room for an eleventh
 " little horn, perfectly distinct from them all ;
 " not surely first to fix upon three states,
 " which we conceive may answer to the character of the three horns, and then contrive such
 " a list of ten kingdoms as may include these
 " three states. Yet such is the plan which
 " Bishop Newton adopts. Perfectly aware
 " that it would be a vain labour to seek either
 " for the Exarchate of Ravenna, or for the
 " state of Rome among the ten primary kingdoms, he most unwarrantably sets aside the
 " real list of those kingdoms, and substitutes
 " a list of his own, into which he introduces
 " the petty state of Rome, and the Greek province of Ravenna, evidently for no other
 " purpose than to give a colour of probability
 " to his predetermined interpretation. Hence
 " his catalogue does indeed contain the three
 " states, which he supposes to be the three
 " horns plucked up before the little horn ; but

“ it is certainly not the more on that account
“ a faithful catalogue of the ten original king-
“ doms.”

Now it appears to me, that the only difference between Bishop Newton and Mr. Faber is, that Bishop Newton felt a stronger confidence that the three horns, which were plucked up before the Papacy, were Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome, than he did in the correctness of any of the proposed lists of the ten kingdoms; he, therefore, made his list of the ten horns *bend* to his interpretation of the three horns: Mr. Faber, on the other hand, it appears, felt the most confidence in the interpretation of the ten original horns, as being those that have been named in his list; he therefore *forcibly accommodates* the interpretation of the three horns; so as to agree with his list of the ten kingdoms, and considering that the parts of the prophecy relating to the three horns are more particular and pointed than those relating to the ten horns when spoken of altogether (on which account we see, that though Mr. Mede, Sir Isaac, and Bishop Newton, differ in their lists of the ten kingdoms, they agree as to the three that were plucked up), the course pursued by Bishop Newton appears to me more justifiable; and more likely to be attended with a successful

result than that pursued by Mr. Faber. I wish however in no instance to digress from the subject immediately before me, much less to pass any censures upon an author whose labours I so much respect as I do those of Mr. Faber; and my only object in bringing forwards high contending authorities, is to point out what may be considered as debatable ground, within the range of which any commentator is at liberty to attempt the establishment of a new hypothesis.

In thus producing the opinions of former commentators, I obtain also an opportunity of acknowledging my obligations to them; to Mr. Mede, Sir Isaac, and Bishop Newton, in the present instance, for the satisfactory manner in which they have pointed out the three horns that were subdued by the papal horn; and to Mr. Faber, for his authority for pronouncing the list of Bishop Newton, which alone contains these three kingdoms, to be upon the whole unsatisfactory, as being formed on no definite principle.

I am authorized therefore to draw the conclusion, that no satisfactory interpretation can be given of the prophecy of Daniel, except the division of the Western Roman empire into ten kingdoms be made on the principle of a *terri-*

torial division; by which method alone a definite list of ten kingdoms can be obtained, which shall include Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome.

So far as Bishop Newton's list contains these three kingdoms, I consider it therefore to be correct; but being formed upon the principle of a division of governments, and not a territorial division, it will be found in every other respect liable to the same objections as the lists of other commentators.

We will now proceed to examine a second particular relating to these kingdoms, which is mentioned in the vision of the Great Image of Daniel; where the Stone cut out without hands is said to smite upon the toes of the Image, and to break them to pieces; by which is implied, that the destruction of these ten kingdoms will be effected by the power of Christ in the latter days, preparatory to the full establishment of his kingdom; consequently the majority of them at least (or as we are elsewhere informed all except two) must be in existence when the last period commences; but all the kingdoms founded by the Barbarians, as has been already observed, with the exception of France, are supposed by the commentators whose opinions have been quoted, to

have perished at a period long before that in which the Stone actually began to smite upon the kingdoms of the Western Roman empire, preparatory to the full establishment of the temporal kingdom of Christ upon earth. In this instance, therefore, all the lists of the ten kingdoms, which have hitherto been proposed, appear to be irreconcilable with the terms of the prophecy.

Again, a third peculiarity in these kingdoms is referred to, where it is said that some were of iron; and some of potter's clay; it is necessary therefore, for the satisfactory explanation of this prophecy, that the ten kingdoms should be arranged in two classes, and that some of them should be shewn to be of Iron, or to resemble in strength and tyranny the old Roman empire, from which they sprang; and others to be of Clay, either not possessing such strength or not exerting it tyrannically: this division of the kingdoms into two classes remains therefore to be shewn in those hitherto named, before they can be received as the ten kingdoms spoken of by Daniel.

We now proceed to the consideration of the fourth particular, mentioned in the prophecies relative to the ten horns; this is found in Rev. xvii. 16, where we read, that the ten horns

should hate the Papal Harlot, “ and make her
“ desolate, and naked, and burn her flesh with
“ fire:” in order, therefore, satisfactorily to establish the lists of the ten kingdoms given by former commentators, it would be necessary to shew how the Heruli, the Huns, the Vandals, the Sueves, the Visigoths, &c. (or at least the majority of them taken as the whole), were ever employed in seizing the riches, and destroying the power of the Papacy: but this would be utterly impossible, for the majority, and nearly all of them, had ceased to exist long before the Papacy had even *acquired* its power and its riches. The direct interpretation of this part of the prophecy is, therefore, necessarily evaded, and commentators suppose, that other kingdoms are here spoken of, which succeeded to ten *original* kingdoms.

I have now examined the different lists of the ten kingdoms which have hitherto been proposed, in every particular, by which their correctness could either be established or disproved: and have observed that they are formed on principles so little precise, as to vary essentially from each other; we have found also, that of the four particular predictions relating to the ten kingdoms, but one has been satisfactorily explained, and that only according to the list of Bishop Newton, which is itself rejected by suc-

ceeding commentators, as not being formed upon any precise principles of interpretation, but solely with the object of including Ravenna, Lombardy, and Rome. From which review it clearly appears, that there is yet room for the establishment of any new interpretation which may better answer in various particulars to the terms of the prophecy.

There remains to be discussed a part of this prophecy of less importance, but of which the interpretations hitherto given do not appear to me to be satisfactory. I refer to the passage where it is said that the Iron Toes should mingle themselves with the Toes of Clay, but that they should “ not cleave one to another, “ even as Iron is not mixed with Clay ;” this is interpreted by Bishop Newton, Faber, and other commentators, to mean, that matrimonial alliances should be formed between the potentates of different kingdoms, but that these alliances should not be durable, so as to end in the establishment of one universal empire. But it is to be observed, that commentators, in giving this interpretation, consider the symbols of Iron and Clay to be used in this instance without any reference to their accustomed signification of strength and weakness, but only as being two bodies that will not adhere together ; for a *disproportion of strength* would be so far

from being a reason why different kingdoms should not be durably united so as to form one great empire, that the strength and tyranny of the one, and the comparative weakness of the other, would afford ground for concluding, that if once united, either by alliance or conquest, they would inseparably *cleave* together, and that the weak kingdoms would never regain their independence.

It is to be remarked also, that this interpretation is vague and unsatisfactory, inasmuch as commentators do not pretend to distinguish between these two classes, or to define which these strong and weak kingdoms respectively were, that thus mingled themselves together.

I have, for these reasons, attempted to give a totally different turn to this passage, considering that the terms Iron and Clay, wherever they are used throughout the prophecy, must be understood as symbols of comparative strength and weakness ; and I suppose the passage to be designed to describe the great contrast of character which should exist between these two sets of kingdoms, and that it points out such a difference betwixt them, as to render it impossible for them to be confounded together, or to be *assimilated to one another*. This interpretation is interesting, as we refer for the explanation of it, as far as the strong kingdoms are

178 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

concerned, to the tyrannical reign of France since the year 1792, or rather since the year 1804, and to the approaching* tyrannical reigns of Rome and of Austria.

* These remarks upon the interpretations of other commentators having been written some time subsequently to the former part of this chapter, the date of this observation is 1st August, 1814. *Printed, 9th August, 1814.* 1st Edit.

CHAPTER III.

Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts, representing the four ruling kingdoms of the world. The Little Papal Horn described. First, in the period of the 1260 years of its prosperity; Secondly, in the period during which the judgment sits upon it, to take away its dominion.

THE next vision in the Book of Daniel, is that of the four Beasts; which we have frequently had occasion to refer to in the foregoing chapter, but of which some important parts still remain unexplained. This was seen by Daniel in the first year of Belshazzar, king of Babylon, A. C. 555, forty-eight years after he had interpreted to King Nebuchadnezzar the vision of the Great Image.

We may consider that the four ruling kingdoms of the world are again here mentioned, principally in order to introduce the history of

the Papal Power, the main subject of this prophecy ; which appears amongst the ten horns of the fourth Beast, as an additional little horn, diverse from the other ten.

In entering upon the examination of this prophetic vision, it is worthy of remark, in what a different light the kingdoms of the world appeared to Nebuchadnezzar, a worldly monarch, and to Daniel, a saint and a prophet. To Nebuchadnezzar, they appeared under the form of every thing that is most valued and esteemed by man ; as the Gold, the Silver, and the Brass, and the strong and useful Iron : the Image exhibited a brightness that was excellent, and the grandeur of its appearance was both to be feared and admired. To Daniel, on the contrary, they were shewn under the characters of four ferocious wild Beasts, delighting only in cruelty and blood ; he saw in them much that was to be feared, but nothing that was to be admired. This circumstance Bishop Newton also alludes to in his work on the Prophecies ; and as the vision relates principally to the persecution of the Church by the Roman empire under the influence of the Papacy, we may suppose that it is partly in reference to their characters as its persecutors, that the kingdoms of the world appeared to him as four ferocious wild beasts.

The vision is related in the 7th chapter of Daniel, ver. 1—3: “ In the first year of Belshazzar King of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters. Daniel spake, and said, I saw in my vision by night, and behold the four winds of the heaven strove upon the Great Sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.”

The symbol of the Great Sea here introduced, resembles, in the voice of its many waters, the voice of a great multitude of the people*. The Sea also is to be considered as exhibiting these waters in a barren and unproductive state, and as representing those nations in which Paganism, Infidelity, or even a corrupted Christianity, prevailed.

This interpretation of the symbol is confirmed by a passage in Ezekiel, chap. xlvii. ver. 1—12, where the conversion of all nations by the instrumentality of the Jews is described. A River of pure water is there said to go forth from the Temple at Jerusalem, which, being brought into the Sea, heals its waters. By which is signified, that the pure doctrines of the Gospel, proceeding from the Church at

* Rev. xvii. 15, and xix. 6. Psal. lxxv. 7. Isai. xvii. 12.

182 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

Jerusalem, should convert to the true faith those unbelieving nations which are represented by the *Sea*.

Again, in Rev. chap. xxi. ver. 1, the future glorious state of the Church is shewn to Saint John, under the figure of a new heaven, and a new earth, in which "there was no more *Sea*;" by which is implied, that there will then no more be any people in a barren and unbelieving state.

These two examples will be sufficient to establish the meaning of the symbol; and I would only now further point out, as an instance of the uniformity of the prophetic writings, that Saint John also describes in Rev. chap. xiii. the fourth Beast, or the Ten-horned Monster, as rising out of the *Sea*: for having to introduce into his prophecy the same Beast as was seen by Daniel, to describe it with more precision, he thus speaks of it from its first commencement, though the period of its existence, to which he particularly refers, was confined, as he informs us, to forty-two prophetic months, or 1260 natural years. The *Sea* exhibited to each prophet was "the Great Sea," and represented the nations of the world at large professing Paganism.

The other emblem here introduced, is that of the Four Winds, which is not so often met

with in the prophetic writings as the symbol of the Sea ; but from the nature of the symbol, which almost necessarily brings to our minds the idea of violence, and from a consideration of those few remarkable passages in which it occurs, we find clearly, that applied to temporal things, it represents the Spirit of violence, contention, and discord.

In this sense it is used in Rev. chap. vii. where the last period of the thirty-years' Destruction of the Roman empire, commencing in the year 1792, is spoken of as the time during which the earth should be destroyed or "hurt" by "the Four Winds," or by the Spirit of violence and discord let loose amongst men.

The meaning given to the symbol in this passage, is confirmed by Esdras, chap. xv. xvi., where the state of the world, during the same period in which the winds are described by Saint John as being let loose upon the earth; is thus spoken of: "There shall be sedition among men, and invading one another ; they shall not regard their kings nor princes, and the course of their actions shall stand in their power."

Suitably to this view of the symbol we find, that the four Winds are here described as blowing in *different directions*, or "*striving*

upon “the Great Sea;” aptly representing this spirit exciting and impelling men in different directions, driving them against one another, and producing wars, fightings, and contentions.

The meaning of the separate symbols being thus fixed, it follows, that the description given of the four great Beasts rising out of the Sea, thus agitated and put into commotion by the Four Winds, represents the four ruling kingdoms of the world, arising amidst the strife and contentions of the Gentiles, who knew not God; and this is a correct representation of the way in which all, especially the last, arose, namely, amidst wars and fightings, produced by the ambitious desires of men estranged from the Gospel of peace.

The description of the first Beast, or kingdom of Babylon, is as follows; Dan. vii. 4. “The first was like a lion, and had eagle’s wings: and I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man’s heart was given to it.”

The symbol which is here introduced of Eagle’s Wings, we find from many passages of Scripture, denotes wide extended Empire; amongst others is that of Ezekiel, chap. xvii. ver. 3, where the King of Babylon is described as

a “ great eagle, with great wings, long-winged, “ full of feathers, which had divers colours ;” the wide extended and splendid Wings in this description, representing the extent and splendour of the Babylonian empire. The King of Egypt is also spoken of in the same chapter, as “ another great eagle, with great wings and “ many feathers :” but as the dominion of the King of Egypt was inferior to that of the King of Babylon, so the wings of the second eagle are represented as inferior to those of the first.

Again, in Isaiah, the maritime nation is addressed as “ the land *shadowing with wings* ;” or as the land, which through its maritime superiority, caused its *power* and influence to be felt to the *remotest parts of the earth*. Other passages might be adduced, but these two, and especially the first, may be considered as sufficient to establish the meaning of the symbol.

I would observe, that Daniel gives a summary account of the rise of the four Beasts out of the Sea, that we might be put in possession of all necessary information respecting them ; though in so doing he is obliged to refer to a period that was some time past ; for the kingdom of Babylon was already then in existence, or the Lion *had* risen out of the Sea. After this general description, however, there is a reference to the period in which he wrote ; for

he speaks of the Lion as *having* Eagle's wings, because the kingdom of Babylon was already in possession of the Empire of the world. Daniel did not see the wings given to the Lion, though he witnessed afterwards, in the course of the vision, when the Empire of the world was given to the three kingdoms which followed ; for he heard when the commission was given to the Bear to "*arise and devour much flesh;*" and he saw also when "*dominion was given*" to the Leopard ; and when the Ten-horned Monster "*stamped the residue with his feet:*" and these expressions by which we are informed of the four Beasts successively *acquiring the empire of the world*, are worthy of notice, because they afford a strong proof of a distinction being made in the prophetic writings, between a Beast, or kingdom itself, and the *empire* it obtained ; which distinction I have already endeavoured to establish.

When Daniel wrote, the time was fast approaching that Babylon should cease to be the ruling kingdom of the world ; for its capital of that name was taken by Cyrus, only sixteen years afterwards ; this was an event most interesting to the Jewish Church ; for by it were accomplished many predictions of their prophets ; and it was, after a period of seventy years captivity, the prelude to their restoration,

and re-establishment in their own land. It was to be expected therefore, that the vision would include this event; and it is symbolically related by Daniel, when he says, that he beheld till the Eagle's wings, which the Lion possessed, "were plucked," or till the dominion typified by them was taken away from the Babylonians, being "given to the Medes and Persians." He saw also, that the Lion "was lifted up from the earth, and was made stand upon the feet as a man;" that is, its character was changed, and it was deprived of its power to commit violence as a wild beast, "and a *man's heart*" was said to be "given to it;" thus the Babylonians were humbled by adversity, and made "to know themselves to be *but men*."

The vision thus continues, ver. 5: "And behold, another beast, a second, like to a Bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it, between the teeth of it; and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh."—This symbol has already been so fully explained, in considering the preceding vision, that no further observations appear to be now required, especially as the Medo-Persian empire will be again spoken of, in explaining the vision of the Ram and the He-goat.

Verse 6. “ After this I beheld, and lo, another, like a Leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl: the beast had also four heads, and dominion was given to it.” This part also has been already explained; and we have only further to remark upon the symbol of the wings, that these are not the wings of an Eagle, like those seen upon the Lion, or kingdom of Babylon, but the wings of a Fowl of the air, and meant therefore only as emblems of swiftness, referring to the *exceeding rapidity* with which the conquests of Alexander the Great were made; on which account also there are four of them. The kingdom of Alexander did not retain its power for a sufficient length of time, nor was it ever in a sufficiently settled state to entitle it to be emblematically represented as having *Eagle’s* wings; which imply settled dominion affording protection.

The next emblem, representing the Western Roman empire, is ushered in with a greater degree of solemnity than those that preceded it; for this Empire is of more importance in itself, and includes in its description that of the Papal Power; the chief object of this prophecy.

It is described as it existed prior to the rise of the Papacy in chap. vii. ver. 7. “ I saw in the

“ night visions, and behold, a fourth Beast,
“ dreadful and terrible, and strong exceed-
“ ingly; and it had great iron teeth: it de-
“ voured and brake in pieces, and stamped the
“ residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse
“ from all the beasts that were before it, and
“ it had ten horns,” which passage is after-
wards thus explained by the angel, who inter-
prets the vision, verse 23: “ The fourth Beast
“ shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth,
“ which shall be diverse from all kingdoms,
“ and shall devour the whole earth, and shall
“ tread it down, and break it in pieces. 24.
“ And the ten horns out of this kingdom, are
“ ten kings that shall arise.”

The ten horns must be considered as mentioned in anticipation, in verse 7; that the Beast might, from the first, appear perfect and complete; or rather, because the horns, representing territorial subdivisions of the Western Roman empire, must always be considered as constituting part of the body of the Beast. So the Image had ten toes when it was *first seen*; and this Beast appeared likewise to Saint John, as well as to Daniel, to have ten horns when it *first rose* out of the Sea.

We find in these verses the great ferocity of the fourth Beast is described; and the iron composing its teeth, used as a symbol of

strength, answers to the iron composing the legs of the Great Image.

It is said to be “*diverse* from all the beasts “that were before it, *exceeding strong* ;” and this diversity, in its outward appearance, is more fully explained in the Revelation of Saint John, chap. xiii. ver. 1—2, where the same beast is again mentioned, and described as a Monster, having the terrible mouth of the Lion; the savage claws of the Bear, and the fierce activity of the Leopard; appearing thus to combine in itself the most ferocious characteristics of “all the beasts that were before it.”

Here the Western Roman empire is described, as far excelling in strength the three ruling kingdoms of the world, which are represented by the Lion, the Bear, and the Leopard.

The ten minor kingdoms, represented by the ten horns, have already been named as being the kingdoms of Ravenna, Lombardy, Rome, Naples, Tuscany, France, Austria, Spain, Portugal, and Britain.

The period of the reign of the Papacy, the peculiar subject of this prophecy, is next spoken of, ver. 8. “I considered the horns, and “behold, there came up among them another “little horn, before whom there were three of “the first horns plucked up by the roots; and

“ behold in this horn were eyes like the eyes
“ of man, and a mouth speaking great things.”
And again, ver. 19, “ Then I would know the
“ truth of the fourth Beast. 20. And of the
“ ten horns that were in its head, and of the
“ other which came up ; before whom three
“ fell, even of that horn that had eyes, and a
“ mouth that spake very great things, whose
“ look was more stout than his fellows. 22.
“ And I beheld, and the same horn made war
“ with the Saints, and prevailed against them.
“ 23. Until the Ancient of days came, and
“ judgment was given to the Saints of the
“ Most High, and the time came that the
“ Saints possessed the kingdom :” which de-
scription is afterwards thus explained, ver. 24,
“ The ten horns out of this kingdom, are ten
“ kings that shall arise ; and another shall
“ arise after them, and he shall be diverse
“ from the first ; and he shall subdue three
“ kings. 25. And he shall speak great words
“ against the Most High, and he shall wear
“ out the Saints of the Most High, and think
“ to change times and laws ; and they shall be
“ given into his hands until a time, and times,
“ and the dividing of time.”

The prophet “ considered the horns,” or ten
kingdoms of the divided Western Roman em-
pire ; springing up amongst these, he per-

ceives a little horn of a different description from the others, having “ eyes like the eyes of “ man.” This symbol represents the Papacy as a spiritual power, the *eyes* intimating a prophetic character ; Prophets, on account of their speaking of invisible things, and seeing into futurity, being called *Seers* : and that such is the character of the Papacy in prophetic history, appears also from the book of Revelations, where the Papal Power is called “ the “ false *Prophet*.” He is here said to have a mouth speaking very great things ; and again, he is said to speak words against the Most High, setting his own decisions against those of the word of God, and making arrogant pretensions to those attributes of power and infallibility which belong to God alone.

He is said, in verse 8, to rise up “ amongst” the others ; in verse 20, to be the horn that “ came up ;” and in the explanation of the vision in verse 24, he is said to rise “ after” the others. Here we must observe, that the prophet did not see any of the *ten* horns *spring up* ; they appeared already upon the head of the beast when he was first seen ; so they are spoken of afterwards as “ the ten that were in his “ head,” and the little horn only is spoken of as “ the other which came up.”

The description here given of the **Papal**

horn, as thus rising up amongst the ten kingdoms, appears equivalent to the description given of its rise in the Apocalypse, where it is said to rise up “out of the Earth* ;” namely, out of that part of it which formed the territory of the Western Roman empire.

It is called a little Horn, because it rose from small beginnings : the corruption of the Church of Rome, as well as its attainment of spiritual power, being secret and imperceptible, though it gradually increased till at length it became universal ; and the Pope appeared as the Great Apostate of the Western Empire.

After his rise it is said, that three of the ten horns should be plucked up by the roots before him ; again, that three should fall before him ; and again, that three should be subdued by him. These expressions, which so strongly affirm that three of the ten kingdoms of the divided Western Roman empire should be taken possession of by the Pope, either by his own agency, or through that of his allies, I refer, with Mr. Mede, Sir Isaac, and Bishop Newton, to his taking possession of the Exarchate of Ravenna, Lombardy, and the State of Rome ; which afterwards, for above a thousand years,

* Rev. chap. xiii. 11.

formed the territories of the Church. These events happened in the following order ; about the year 730*, the Pope, taking advantage of the prejudices of the populace in favour of Image worship, which the Greek Emperor Leo had endeavoured to suppress, excommunicated him, and excited his Italian subjects to insurrection ; who in consequence rose upon the Exarch, who governed in his name at Ravenna, and put him to death. After this event, the Greek Emperor never recovered his authority in Italy ; and the Pope became eventually the temporal, as well as spiritual Governor of the *State of Rome*. This horn he may therefore be considered as having plucked up by his own immediate agency. About twenty-five years after this*, the then Pope claimed from the King of the Lombards the Exarchate of Ravenna, as forming part of the spoils of an heretic prince ; for such he termed the Emperor, on account of his having endeavoured to prevent Idol worship ; and persuaded Pepin, King of France, to enforce his claim ; who, marching a powerful army into Lombardy, besieged Aistulphus in his capital, and obliged him to resign to the Pope *Ravenna*, the object of contention, which was then united to the State of

* Echard's Rom. Hist. in loc.

Rome, and thus the second horn was plucked up by the roots before the Papacy. Subsequently to this, about the year 774*, the Pope having, by his intrigues, excited the displeasure of Desiderius, King of Lombardy, Desiderius seized several towns belonging to the Church, and prepared to besiege Ravenná; upon which the then Pope applied to Charlemagne for his assistance, who, marching an army into Lombardy, after a siege of ten months, took Pavia, its capital, and put an end to the kingdom of the *Lombards*, which had existed in Italy above two hundred years. Thus was the third kingdom subdued before the Papacy, which obtained from Charlemagne a considerable portion of the conquered territories.

The Prophecy next represents the Pope, or the Papacy, as “making war with the Saints;” the true Church of Christ; the professors of the unadulterated religion of the Bible. He is said to “wear them out,” destroying them, and lessening their numbers by continual persecution. He is said also to “think to change” times and laws;” for shutting up the word of God as unfit for the perusal of the simple and unlearned, he substitutes in its place the corrupt traditions of the self-called Church;

* Echard's Rom. Hist, in loc.

being lifted up with such extreme arrogance as to think that he had supreme authority, and that all events, or the “times,” which God “hath put in his own power,” and the “laws” of God revealed in his Holy Word, were to bend to him, and be at his disposal: and for a long season it was permitted that he should prevail against the saints, so as nearly to banish true religion from the whole of the Western Roman empire: the laws of God were abrogated, his word concealed, and the times apparently left to the disposal of the great Apostate for a certain period, called “a time, times, and the dividing of time.”

A Time may be considered as naturally expressive of the longest time or fixed period we are in the habit of calculating by; or a year. The expression Times implies two of these periods; and the Dividing of Time, elsewhere called a half time, one half of that period; making a total amount of three Times and a half, or three prophetic years and a half.

That this is the correct meaning of the words will be evident on a reference to the parallel prophecies of Saint John, where the same period is described as being 42 prophetic months, and also 1260 prophetic days, each year being considered as composed of 12 months, and each month of 30 days. Now in prophecy, a day is

frequently used to represent a natural year; as, for instance, Ezekiel*, in prophesying the length of time the Jews should suffer for their iniquity, was commanded to lie forty days on one side, eating bread by weight, and drinking water by measure; thus representing the distress the Jews should suffer in their captivity; and every day he so lay down represented a natural year; as it is said, "Lo, I have appointed thee each day for a year."

There are other instances where a day is used to typify a year, so that we may conclude with certainty, that the period here spoken of as "a time, and times, and the dividing of time," equals 1260 years.

A precise period being named for the dominance of the Papacy, we must infer, that the commencement of this period will be accurately marked; for it would be in vain that the years were numbered, if the point of time from which the period commenced, was not distinguishable. Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame have well observed, that it would only be by some authoritative act of the secular power of the empire, that the saints could originally be given into the hands of the papal horn; the Papacy being a spiritual power which could

* Ezek. chap. iv.

only at first exercise such authority as was permitted by the temporal power. Mr. Cuninghame further observes, that in looking for a commencement of the period, marked by such an authoritative act of the state, we shall find, that, in the month of March, 533, the Emperor Justinian issued an edict against heretics; and when writing to the Pope for his approbation of what he had done, addresses him *as the acknowledged head of all the holy churches, and all the holy priests of God*. The letter, in which this acknowledgment is contained, as well as the edict to which it related, were inserted in the volume of the civil law of the Empire, and are still to be found there. From the date of this imperial epistle of Justinian to Pope John, the saints, and times, and laws of the Church, may therefore be considered to have been formally delivered into the hands of the Papacy; and this consequently gives the precise date for the commencement of the period of the 1260 years.

The period being reckoned in years, we may expect to find the accomplishment of the prophecy agree as to the number of years; but greater accuracy than this we are not warranted to expect. Now, according to the scriptural mode of reckoning by incomplete time; which method is said to prevail universally in the

East, any length of time between 1259 and 1260 years would be denominated by the greater number. The period then having begun in the month of March, 533, its termination may have been at any point of time from March, 1792, to March, 1793. The principal explosion of the French Revolution on the 10th August, 1792, happened therefore at the expiration of the period; on that day the French Monarchy was overthrown, and the Republic established in its stead. This was an event of an importance wonderfully adapted to mark the expiration of the long period of 1260 years, during which it had pleased God, with much forbearance and long suffering, to permit the triumph of the enemies of his truth, the sufferings and depression of his church, and the concealment of his Gospel: the French Revolution marked the termination of this order of things; it came to the astonishment of those that dwell upon the earth; it ushered in the period of the destruction of the Roman empire, and of the Papacy (through the instrumentality of the Infidel power), a period which is called in the Revelations, the day of the wrath of God; and in Isaiah, the year of his redeemed.

In the 25th verse, after the period of the time, times, and half, had been mentioned, during which the Saints should be given into the hands

of the little Horn, it is said, “ But the judgment
 “ shall sit, and they shall take away his domi-
 “ nion, to consume and destroy it unto the end.”
 From these words we learn, that the complete
 consumption of the Papacy will occupy a cer-
 tain space of time, and will reach to the end;
 though we are informed in the Revelations,
 that its first fall will be sudden: and so we find,
 that the spoliation and destruction of the Papacy
 is not yet completed, though the commence-
 ment of it was strikingly marked by the sudden
 and extraordinary events of the year 1792.
 From that year we therefore date the commence-
 ment of the last period in the history of the
 Church Militant: and it will be recollected
 that we have already, in examining the vision
 of the Great Image, ascertained the same date
 for the commencement of the last, and co-
 temporary period in the history of the Empire;
 for in considering the reign of the Stone, it
 was remarked, that the ten kingdoms of the
 divided Roman empire, or the majority of
 them, viz., the seven remaining Roman-catho-
 lic kingdoms, began in that year to be broken to
 pieces.

At the same time that the Papacy is destroyed,
 the destruction of the Roman empire also takes
 place, which is described in this vision in the
 following words, ver. 9. “ I beheld till the

“ thrones were cast down (or placed) and the
“ Ancient of days did sit; whose garment was
“ white as snow, and the hair of his head like
“ the pure wool, his throne was like a fiery
“ flame, and his wheels as burning fire. 10.
“ A fiery stream issued and came forth from
“ before him, the judgment was set, and the
“ books were opened. 11. I beheld then, be-
“ cause of the voice of the great words which
“ the horn spake, I beheld even till the beast
“ was slain, and his body destroyed, and given
“ to the burning flame. 12. As concerning
“ the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion
“ taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for
“ a season and time.”

In this sublime and awful description, the transactions in heaven are revealed, and God is represented as sitting in judgment upon the nations of the world. The thrones here mentioned may be understood as being placed for those who were slain for the testimony of Jesus; for it is at this time that the nations are ruled with a rod of iron, and it was to those who should remain faithful during the period of the ten persecutions, that the following promise was made :
“ He that overcometh, and keepeth my works
“ unto the end, to him will I give power over
“ the nations, and he shall rule them with a rod
“ of iron, and as the vessels of a potter shall

202 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

“ they be broken to shivers, *even as I received* “ *of my Father** :” in which passage we may perceive, that the power exercised by the Saints themselves over the nations is distinctly spoken of, and that it is declared, that they should be made partakers of the reign of Christ.

That the reign of the Saints has already commenced, and began with the period of the destruction of the empire, is a position however of so much interest and importance as to require that I should bring forward some texts to support and illustrate it; and I will first refer to those passages which speak of the temporal kingdom of Christ, and of the reign of the Saints, as *commencing* immediately at the expiration of the 1260 years, that is, at the commencement of the thirty years; secondly, to those which speak of the reign of the saints as *continued through the whole course* of the period of thirty years; and thirdly, to those which speak of this reign at the *end* of the period of thirty years.

In the vision of the Great Image we have seen that the Stone, or the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, *first* appears when the destruction of the Empire takes place. So likewise, in the Revelation of Saint John, immediately before the

* Rev. chap. ii. ver. 26 & 27.

sounding of the seventh Trumpet, our Saviour is described as descending from heaven to earth, setting his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot upon the earth, emblematical of his then taking possession of the kingdoms of this world: and at the same time that awful declaration is heard, that the mysteriously permitted period of the 1260 years was finished*.

In the prophecy under consideration, we also read this passage, Dan. chap. vii. ver. 21—22, “ I beheld, and the horn made war with the
“ Saints, and prevailed against them, *until* the
“ Ancient of days came, and judgment was
“ given to the Saints of the Most High, and
“ the time came that the Saints possessed the
“ kingdom.” From which we infer, first, that the coming of the Ancient of days takes place at the expiration of the 1260 years’ prosperity of the Papacy; and secondly, that *judgment is then given to the Saints*, and that from that period they *possess the kingdom*.

We find also, in Rev. chap. xi. ver. 15—18, that immediately after the fall of the tenth part of the City (or after the French Revolution), great voices are heard in heaven, saying, “ The kingdoms of this world *are become the kingdoms of*
“ *our Lord, and of his Christ;*” and it is said,

* Rev. x. 1—7.

that it is at this time that he should “give reward unto his servants the *Prophets*, and to “*the Saints*,” and to them that fear his name, “small and great;” the reward here spoken of being that promised to them in Rev. ii. 26, 27, and iii. 21, and which they were also commanded in Rev. vi. 11 to wait for, till the number of the martyrs that were to be slain by Papal persecution should be completed, or till the period of the 1260 years should be expired.

In the Apocalypse, the Church in Heaven, formed of the spirits of the glorified Saints, is typified by the four Living Creatures which surround the throne, who are said to sing a new song to him who had redeemed them to God by his blood, “out of every kindred, and tongue, “and people, and nation.” It is also typified by that part of the Temple, or Church in general, which is the most sacred; that is, by the Holy of Holies; so when the “*Temple in heaven*” (which, literally translated, means the *Church in heaven*) is mentioned, we find from the description of it, and from the scenery belonging to it, that it is the Holy of Holies that is so called. This being understood, I have to observe, that the seven Vials of the Wrath of Almighty God, which are poured out in the course of the period of the thirty years, and which effect the destruc-

tion of the Roman empire, are delivered into the hands of the seven angels who are to pour them out, *by one of the four Living Creatures*. The angels who pour them out likewise *come out of the Temple in Heaven*, which is at this period first opened, when the judgments of God are made manifest. The voice likewise comes out of the Temple in Heaven, which commands the angels to pour them out ; all which tends to establish the opinion, that the Church in Heaven, or the Spirits of the glorified Saints, which are typified by the four Living Creatures, and by the Temple in Heaven, are designed to be represented as themselves inflicting those judgments upon the nations, and as ruling them with a rod of iron, *during the whole course of the period* of the destruction of the Roman empire.

In the *last dreadful scene of this period*, namely, at the treading of the wine-press, the Saints in heaven are also described as being present, attending upon that great triumph of their Lord : for of whom else are “ those armies in “ heaven” composed, which are mentioned in Rev. chap. xix. ver. 14, “ as following Christ “ upon white horses ;” the emblems of power and authority, victory and success ; and “ as “ clothed in fine linen, white and clean” (which we read in ver. 8, of the same chapter, is

the righteousness of *Saints*), and who are elsewhere spoken of, in chap. xvii. ver. 14, as those that “are with him,” or who attend Christ upon this occasion, and who are “*called, and chosen, and faithful.*” It is said, that Christ, at the head of these armies, smites the nations, and rules them “with a rod of iron, and treadeth the wine-press of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God;” and we have already noticed the promise, made in the early ages of the Church, that the *Saints* should be partakers of this victory, and should so “rule the nations and break them to pieces*.”

That the glorified *Saints* will attend, as here described, that final triumph of their Lord over an apostate and unbelieving world, which precedes the more glorious establishment of his kingdom, is also strongly confirmed by the most ancient prophecy that is extant relative to these events; for in the prophecy of Enoch, the seventh from Adam, as recorded by Saint Jude, we read these words: “Behold the Lord cometh *with ten thousand of his Saints*, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed.”

* Rev. ii. 27.

To these texts, which relate to the Saints at the commencement, during the continuance, and at the termination of the thirty years, we may add another, which relates to them at the commencement of the Millennium, and which is as follows: "And I saw thrones, and they
" sat upon them, and judgment was given
" unto them: and I saw *the souls of them that*
" *were beheaded* for the witness of Jesus, and
" for the word of God, and which had not wor-
" shipped the beast, neither his image, neither
" had received his mark upon their foreheads,
" or in their hands; and they lived and reigned
" with Christ a thousand years."

Here it is expressly said, that the thrones are filled by the *martyred Saints*; and the only difference between this passage, and that in Daniel, is, that Daniel speaks of the first placing of the thrones at the commencement of the reign of Christ during the period of Wrath; and Saint John describes the Saints as sitting on these thrones at the commencement of the peaceful period of the Millennium.

We must next consider, that though this sublime doctrine of the present consciousness of the glorified spirits of the Saints, as to the events which pass upon earth, is, as might be expected, more clearly revealed in the foregoing texts, which speak of the transactions in heaven,

than in any other parts of the sacred writings, yet, that there is nothing in the rest of Scripture that contradicts this doctrine, but that on the contrary the passages that bear on the subject have a strong tendency to confirm it. If the thief on the cross was told that he should be that night with Christ in paradise; and if the glorified spirits of Moses and Elias were permitted to take an active interest in the concerns of the Church; and to appear to Christ in his human nature, and to “speak to him of his decease, which he should accomplish at Jerusalem;” that interpretation of the prophetic writings cannot be rejected as contradictory to other parts of Scripture, which represents the glorified Saints as being permitted to take an active interest in the latter days, in the concerns of the Church: the time being then come that they should receive their “reward.”

I conclude therefore, that it will be admitted, that there is at least a strong appearance of probability in favour of the opinion that it is *for the Saints* that the thrones are placed in heaven, which are described by Daniel as being placed at the commencement of the period during which judgment is passed upon the Roman empire and upon the Papacy, and during which the power of both is progressively consumed and destroyed. Thus the promise, made in

Rev. chap. iii. ver. 21, is fulfilled, "To him
" that overcometh will I grant to sit with me
" in my *throne*, even as I also overcame, and
" am sat down with my Father in his *throne*."
And in the Saints being made themselves to sit
in judgment upon the Papacy, the following
general promise made to the Church by the
mouth of the prophet Isaiah is also remarkably
fulfilled; "No weapon that is formed against
" thee shall prosper, and *every tongue that*
" *shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt*
" *condemn*; this is the heritage of the servants
" of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me
" saith the Lord."

But to proceed, we learn from the eleventh
verse, that it is the Papacy, through its abomi-
nations and its cruelty, that has principally
called down these heavy judgments upon the
earth; accordingly we find, that they have been
inflicted only on the nine Roman-catholic divi-
sions of the Western Roman empire; Britain,
the Protestant kingdom, having escaped; how
awful therefore would it be, were she now to
give any decided encouragement to the princi-
ples of a religion which has been so clearly
marked as the object of Divine displeasure.

The time when the Beast will be slain will
be at the treading of the wine-press, or at the
last great battle, called by Saint John in the

Revelations, the battle of Armageddon. When that dreadful scene is concluded, its body will be completely destroyed by being given to the burning flame; this will be effected during “a
 “ time of trouble, such as there never was
 “ since there was a nation, even unto that same
 “ time*.”

From the 12th verse it is to be inferred, that the Western Roman empire will not be continued in an inferior state of existence, after its power and strength are gone, as was the case with the other ruling kingdoms of the world, for it will immediately be utterly destroyed; whereas the three Beasts, which represented the three other kingdoms, have had their lives prolonged, for a season and a time, since their dominion was taken away; for their total destruction does not take place till they perish together with the fourth beast, or Western Roman empire.

The period of the destruction of the fourth beast, and of its little horn, being a period of thirty years, commencing in the year 1792; or as we should rather say, being the last thirty of a period of 1290 years, commencing in the month of March, 533, it will terminate between the month of March, 1822, and March, 1823;

* Dan. xii, 1.

and there can be little doubt that the prophetic hour will strike with the same precision at the expiration of this period, by the overthrow of the Infidel power, the final destruction of the Papacy, and the restoration of the Jews, as it did in the year 1792, by the overthrow of the French Monarchy, and the commencement of the downfall of the Papacy.

After these events, the burning of the body of the beast immediately takes place, and falls into the next period of the forty-five years of Daniel, to which period the following description also belongs: "I saw in the night visions; " and behold, one like the Son of Man came " with the clouds of heaven, and came to the " Ancient of days, and they brought him near " before him, and there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all " people, nations, and languages, should serve " him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away; and his " kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." This period, which consists of forty-five years, may be called the period of the Progress of the kingdom of Christ, when all Mahometan and Pagan nations will be brought into his Church; and when dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, will be given to him, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him. The descrip-

tion here given is parallel with that in the vision of the Great Image, where the Stone is said to become a great Mountain.

We are informed by Daniel, chap. xii. ver. 1, that during that time of trouble which occupies the commencement of this period, the restoration of the Jews will take place; and from many texts in Scripture there is reason to think that this event will be attended with some extraordinary manifestation of the power of Christ. In Saint John we read these words: "Behold he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him*." And in Zech. xii. 10, when the conversion of the Jews is spoken of, it is said, that "they shall look upon him whom they have pierced." From a comparison of which texts we may conclude, that the conversion of the Jews will be at the second coming of Christ. We learn also, that at his second coming "all the kindreds of the earth" will be in a state of enmity to him; or that it will be at the period when infidelity is at its height. So our Lord himself saith, "*When the Son of Man cometh shall he find faith upon the earth.*" Saint Paul likewise gives a similar

* Rev. i. 7.

description of the time when the Son of Man should come, speaking of the Papacy as that wicked one, that should ere long be revealed ; and whom the Lord *should destroy with the brightness of his coming**.

The 110th Psalm contains also a remarkable prophecy of the establishment of the temporal kingdom of Christ. ver. 1. “ The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until
“ I make thine enemies thy footstool. 2. The
“ Lord shall send the rod of thy strength out
“ of Zion : rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. 3. Thy people shall be willing in the
“ day of thy power ; in the beauties of holiness,
“ from the womb of the morning, thou hast the
“ dew of thy youth. 4. The Lord hath sworn,
“ and will not repent, Thou art a priest for
“ ever after the order of Melchizedek. 5. The
“ Lord at thy right hand shall strike through
“ kings in the day of his wrath. 6. He shall
“ judge among the heathen, he shall fill the
“ places with the dead bodies, he shall wound
“ the heads over many countries. 7. He shall
“ drink of the brook in the way, therefore shall
“ he lift up the head.”

The day of the wrath of Christ, or the period of the Destruction of the Roman empire,

* II. Thess. iii. 8.

is the principal subject of this Psalm (which period is also spoken of in similar terms by the prophet Isaiah, as “ the day of the Lord” that “ shall be upon every one that is proud “ and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted “ up *”), and I conceive that the Jews are particularly spoken of, as repenting and turning to Christ at his second coming (agreeably to the description which is also given by the prophet Zechariah †), when it is said in verse 3, “ Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy “ power.”

The descriptions of the second advent of Christ, found in the Evangelists, direct us likewise to the same period as this psalm of David, as the prophecy of Daniel, now under consideration, and as the second epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians. That given in the 24th chapter of Saint Matthew is as follows : “ 29. “ The sun shall be darkened, and the moon “ shall not give her light, and the stars shall “ fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken ; 30. And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven : “ and then shall all the tribes of the earth “ mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man “ coming in the clouds of heaven, with power

* Isaiah ii, 12.

† Zech. xii, 10.

“ and great glory.” The description given in Saint Mark is the same. In Saint Luke, chapter xxi. ver. 24, it is said, that “ Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”—Then follows a description similar to that in Saint Matthew. 25. “ There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring: 26. Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. 27. And then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud, with power, and great glory.” In Joel ii. 31, the same signs are foretold: “ The Sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.” In the Revelations of Saint John, chap. vi. ver. 12, we find that these signs immediately precede the day of the wrath of God, or the period of the destruction of the Roman empire; and we know by their accomplishment, that they took place in the year 1792. The words of Saint Luke, that “ there shall be upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking

“ after those things which are coming upon the earth,” contain a striking description of the state of the world since that year: “ the powers of the heaven,” or the different potentates of the Roman earth, have likewise “ been shaken :” and many of them, within the last twenty-two years, have been cast down from their spheres. This state of the world will be continued until the next event that is mentioned, which is the coming of the Son of Man in a cloud, with power and great glory ; and which there appears therefore every reason to believe will take place at the end of the thirty years.

In Daniel, our Saviour is also represented as coming in the *clouds of heaven*, agreeably to the many descriptions which are given of his second advent ; we see him in his mediatorial character as the Son of Man, receiving the kingdom from God the Father, and bestowing it upon the Saints ; we see “ the kingdom, and “ the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, given unto the “ people of the Saints of the Most High.”

The dominion of Christ is said to be an everlasting dominion ; and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. And under the reign of Christ and his Saints, during the period of the Millennium, will be experienced

that state of peace and blessedness thus described by the prophet Isaiah, chap. xi. 6—9.

“ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the
“ leopard shall lie down with the kid ; and
“ the calf, and the young lion, and the fatling
“ together ; and a little child shall lead them ;
“ and the cow and the bear shall feed ; their
“ young ones shall lie down together ; and the
“ lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the
“ sucking child shall play on the hole of the
“ asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand
“ on the cockatrice den. They shall not hurt
“ nor destroy in all my holy mountain : for the
“ earth shall be full of the knowledge of the
“ Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”

6 253

Remarks on the Interpretations given by former Commentators of the Vision of the Four Beasts.

In referring to Mr. Faber's exposition of this prophecy, I find that we give different interpretations to the passage, where the three first Beasts are said to have had “ their dominion taken away,” although “ their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.” The season and time here spoken of, Mr. Faber considers to be the period of the Millennium :

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observing, that at the termination of the 1260 years, “ the fourth Beast and his little horn
 “ will be utterly destroyed, and given to the
 “ burning flame, and the triumphant reign of
 “ Christ, or the kingdom of the mountain,
 “ will commence. But the three other Beasts,
 “ namely, the Babylonian, the Medo-Persian,
 “ and the Macedonian, which were all *idola-*
 “ *trous beasts*, as contradistinguished from an
 “ *apostatically idolatrous one*, although their
 “ dominion or their power of oppressing the
 “ Church be taken away, will have *their lives*,
 “ or *idolatrous principles*, prolonged for a sea-
 “ son and a time: that is, prolonged after the
 “ utter destruction of the revived fourth Beast,
 “ and his apostatical principles, and conse-
 “ quently during the reign of the Saints;
 “ which, as we have seen, is to commence at
 “ the death of the fourth Beast.

“ The lives however of the three beasts are
 “ only to be prolonged for a season. Unre-
 “ claimed by the glorious manifestations of
 “ God in favour of his Millenarian Church,
 “ they will still persevere in their idolatry;
 “ and, at the close of the thousand years, will
 “ arrive at such a pitch of daring impiety, as
 “ to make an open attack even upon the be-
 “ loved city. But fire from the Lord will
 “ consume them; and the Church of Christ

“ will be finally translated from earth to heaven.* ”

The reader will recollect, that I have already brought forward the passage in Daniel respecting the prolongation of the lives of the three first Beasts, as a proof that the four Beasts must represent territorial divisions of the prophetic Earth. Mr. Faber, who supposes the four Beasts to represent, severally, the Babylonian Medo-Persian, Macedonian, and Roman empires, considered *each as extending to their utmost limits*, must necessarily give a different interpretation from me to this *prolongation* of their lives. If I correctly understand him, he considers the expression of “ *the lives of the three first Beasts*,” whenever used, to be equivalent to the term *Paganism* (because the Babylonian, Medo-Persian, and Grecian empires, were Pagan empires), and the *life of the fourth Beast*, or Roman empire, to mean the “ *apostatically idolatrous*” principles of Popery and Mahometanism. So when the sixth head of the fourth Beast was seen by Saint John to be wounded and healed again, he supposes the Roman empire was meant to be represented as then passing from Paganism to Popery, and as dying and reviving again †.

* Faber's Dis. 3d ed. vol. i. p. 134 ; 4th, p. 160 ; 5th, p. 158.

† Faber's Dis. vol. i. 3d ed. p. 245 ; 4th, p. 273 ; 5th, p. 270.

The prolongation of the lives of the three first Beasts is therefore supposed to imply, if I do not mistake Mr. Faber's meaning, that the principles of *Paganism* will be *continued* during the Millennium, though the *Papal* and *Mahometan* Apostacies will be destroyed ; and no particular reference is made by him to the three separate kingdoms, which I consider to be represented by the three first Beasts, they being supposed by Mr. Faber to be successively included and lost (when their dominion terminated) in the bodies of the following Beasts or Empires.

Such an interpretation, however, I could by no means admit, for when the lives of three Beasts are said to be prolonged during the dominion, as I suppose, or (as Mr. Faber supposes) after the death of a fourth, I conceive that it necessarily must imply that four *distinct* and *separate* beasts, or temporal kingdoms, *existed together*, and that the prolongation of their lives must simply mean the prolongation of such existence.

It appears also to me, that if the object was merely to express that the principles of *Paganism* would still continue to exist during the Millennium in some parts of the world, that it would be a strange way of intimating this to say, that *the lives of the three first Beasts*,

would be prolonged; when, according to Mr. Faber, the three first Beasts have been long ago swallowed up in a fourth; and *their Paganism*, which is considered as being peculiarly their *life*, has also terminated, for it has been changed for the Mahometan Apostacy.

If however, which is not improbable, I have mistaken Mr. Faber, and he means to give a more precise and definite, and therefore a more correct, interpretation of the passage, and in saying that “the *three Beasts* will still *persevere* in “their idolatry,” admits a reference to those countries which were *peculiarly the seats of the three first Empires*, I must consider it as an admission of the principle that the four Beasts represent *territorial divisions* of the prophetic Earth; and I should then only object to his referring the prolongation of their lives to the future period of the Millennium; and should have to observe, that *Judea* itself formed part of the Macedonian empire, or of the body of the third Beast; and that therefore it seems inconsistent with those prophecies which speak of the Jews as the instruments of converting the whole world, to suppose that the life of the third Beast will be thus prolonged, or that for a thousand years the people immediately surrounding the church at Jerusalem will still “persevere in their idolatry, unreclaimed by

“ the glorious manifestations of God in favour
 “ of his Millennial Church.” The idea of
 the prevalence of idolatry during the Mil-
 lennium, in the countries which were the seats
 of the three first Empires, appears also entirely
 incompatible with the declaration, that “ the
 “ earth shall then be full of the knowledge of
 “ the Lord, as the waters cover the sea :” and
 with what is said in Revelations, that Satan, the
 great promoter of idolatry, should be bound
 during that period, “ that he should deceive
 “ the nations no more till the thousand years
 “ should be fulfilled.” So the last attempt of
 Satan upon the Church is not represented in
 Scripture as being the consequence of the na-
 tions *persevering* in their idolatry, and at length
 “ arriving at such a daring pitch of impiety,
 “ as to make an open attack upon the Church ;”
 but as owing to the influence of Satan being
again exerted for a little season after it had,
 during the period of the Millennium, been
completely restrained *.

But perhaps the most satisfactory proof that
 what is said of the *prolongation* of the lives of
 the three first Beasts, does not refer to a period
 subsequent to the destruction of the fourth, may
 be obtained by a reference to the vision of the
 Great Image ; where we find that the Iron, the

* Rev. xx. 3, 7—9.

Clay, the Silver, the Brass, and the Gold, are "broken to pieces *together*." The four Beasts, representing the same objects, are therefore also unquestionably *destroyed together*, and the lives of the three first are prolonged *until*, but not after, the destruction of the fourth.

On referring to the work of Sir Isaac Newton I find, that he interprets the prolongation of the lives of the three first Beasts in the same way as I have done ; namely, as implying a continuance of their existence until the destruction of the fourth. For after quoting the text he observes, " Therefore all the four Beasts are " still alive, though the dominion of the three " first be taken away." He elsewhere observes, that he places the body of the fourth Beast on " this side Greece ; because the three " first of the four Beasts had their lives prolonged after their dominion was taken away, " and therefore belong not to the body of the " fourth. He only stamped them with his " feet."

The reign of Christ having hitherto been considered as consisting only of one great period, called the Millennium ; I have no support from any other commentator for that part of my system, in which I divide it into the three periods of its Commencement, Progress, and

Perfection ; consisting severally of thirty, forty-five, and one thousand years. But I think that for want of this theory, the interpretations of preceding commentators are in some parts unsatisfactory, and deficient in clearness. This will appear, if we read the 7th chapter of Daniel, ver. 9—14 : for we shall there find that the Sitting of the Ancient of days in judgment (which I suppose takes place at the commencement of the thirty years) is spoken of in verses 9 and 10, before the burning of the body of the Beast, which is mentioned, in verse 11, as the consequence of that judgment. After that, the Coming of the Son of Man in the clouds of Heaven is described, in verse 13, which I refer to the second period of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, or to the commencement of the forty-five years. Mr. Mede and Bishop Newton however understand the Sitting of the Ancient of days and the Coming of the Son of Man both as taking place at the commencement of the same period of the Millennium, and consequently do not keep these events sufficiently distinguished from each other ; though the description of the Sitting of the Ancient of days, mentioned in the 9th verse, is separated from that of the Coming of the Son of Man, mentioned in the 13th verse, by the preface “ I saw in the night

“visions, and behold;” which forms such a break in the narrative as usually intimates the commencement of a new period.

Mr. Faber, in his interpretation, does indeed keep these two subjects perfectly separate and distinct, as the narrative requires; but, in the history of the Temporal Kingdom of Christ, knowing also no other period than the Millennium, he refers the Sitting of the Ancient of days of Daniel to the commencement of the Millennium*: and the subsequent Coming of the Son of Man, of Daniel, to the great judgment at the end of the world, “foretold by “Saint John (in Rev. xx. 11—15) as about to “commence at the expiration of the Millennium †.”

But against the supposed synchronism of the Sitting of the Ancient of days mentioned by Daniel, with the Sitting of the Saints in judgment mentioned by Saint John, I must object, that the *Sitting of the Ancient of days* is mentioned in the 9th verse of the seventh chapter of Daniel, and precedes the death and *destruction of the Ten-horned Beast*, which is mentioned in the 11th verse; and further we shall find that the destruction of the Ten-horned

* Faber's Dissert. vol. i. 3d ed. p. 61. 4th and 5th ed. p. 82.

† Faber's Dissert. vol. i. 3d ed. p. 62.

Beast, as described by Saint John in Rev. xix. 17—21, itself precedes *the commencement of the Millennium* described in Rev. xx. 1—4. The Sitting of the Ancient of days and the judgment of the Saints, mentioned in Daniel, must therefore *considerably precede* the Sitting of the Saints in judgment at the commencement of the Millennium, mentioned in Rev. xx. 1—4, and must be cotemporary with a period in the Revelations of Saint John, prior to that of the battle of Armageddon, in which the Ten-horned Beast is destroyed : and it unquestionably coincides with the whole of the period of the seventh Trumpet, when the seven Vials are poured out, and when the Temple in Heaven is opened, and *the judgments of God are made manifest**.

This opinion was indeed held by Mr. Faber himself, who in one place speaks of the Sitting of the Ancient of days in judgment, as including “ the events which took place in the “ year 1798 † ;” his interpretations, as well as

* Rev. chap. xi. 17, 18. chap. xv. 4.

“ † I believe that both the events which took place in the “ year 1798, and the yet more recent spoliation of the Papal “ territory by Buonaparte, form so many steps, by which, “ during the sitting of the Judgment (Dan. vii. 26) the do- “ minion of the little horn is taken away, until at length, *the* “ the time of the end, it will be altogether destroyed; “ Faber’s Dissert. 3d ed. p. xxviii.

mine, therefore, clearly appear to have required a scheme which shall give two periods at least to the reign of Christ and his Saints; one of which, beginning in the year 1792, shall include the events of the year 1798, and to which may be referred the Sitting of the Ancient of days and the judgment of the Saints, mentioned in Daniel, vii. 9, 10, 11, and 26: and another the future period of the Millennium, to which we may refer the Sitting of the Saints in judgment, described in Rev. xx. 1—4.

To the other synchronism, by which the Coming of the Son of Man, mentioned by Daniel*, is referred to the time of the last judgment, which takes place after the expiration of the Millennium†, it must be objected that it would thus be made to appear, that Christ does not receive “dominion, and glory, “and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and “languages, should serve him,” till the Millennium is over; an idea which would be inconsistent with any received opinions of the nature of that glorious period of universal holiness, and with the descriptions which are given of it in the prophetic writings.

As I agree with Mr. Faber that two distinct periods are spoken of in Dan. vii. 9—11, and in Dan. vii. 13, and yet hold with Mr. Mede

* Dan. vii. 13.

† Rev. xx. 11—15.

and Bishop Newton, that both descriptions relate to events prior to the Millennium, I have the satisfaction on this occasion, as well as on most others, of finding, that my theory is supported in its several parts by one or other of our best commentators.

In support of the position advanced in the foregoing pages, that the reign of Christ and of his Saints has already commenced, I refer to the 15th proposition of Whiston, quoted in page 49 of this work : the reader will there see that he considers it as an established point, that "*the first ages of our Saviour's kingdom*" are *cotemporary with the period of the seventh Trumpet, or seven Vials.* But Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame are both most decided in their opinion, that the period of the seventh Trumpet or seven Vials, began in the year 1792.

If I combine together the evidence of our best commentators, of an older and more modern date, I obtain therefore complete authority for my position, that the reign of Christ, and of his Saints, began with the period of the seventh Trumpet, in the year 1792. That what was foreseen by the older commentators, has not been acknowledged in its accomplishment by the moderns, has been doubtless owing to the temporal reign of Christ having

been hitherto considered as limited to the single period of the Millennium; and no one indeed would pretend to say that that period has yet commenced.

Mr. Faber does not divide the history of the Papal horn, as the prophecy seems to require, into those *two distinct periods*; first, the 1260 years of its prosperity; and, secondly, the 30 years, during which the judgment sits upon it, to take away its dominion, to consume and destroy it unto the end: or otherwise, looking to the course of events since the year 1792, he could hardly have failed to acknowledge that the *first* of these periods has already expired, and the latter commenced. This acknowledgment would, however, have been inconsistent with his main position, that the time of Mahometanism, and the period of the 1260 years of the Papacy, began together in the year 606. How far there is any foundation for this highly plausible, but, as I apprehend, untenable position, will be seen when we consider the last chapters of Daniel; this hypothesis, resting solely upon Mr. Faber's supposition, that when in the eleventh verse of the twelfth chapter, an abomination of desolation is spoken of, which is to last for 1260, or 1290 years, it is the Mahometan, and not the Papal Power, which is there designed.

That the history of the Papacy, however, does consist of two distinct periods, will, I think, appear to any one who will impartially consider the texts, Dan. vii. 21, 22, 25, and 26, for during the 1260 years, the Papacy is represented as *prevailing* against the Saints; but, at the Sitting of the Ancient of days, a reverse takes place, and *judgment* is said to be given *to the Saints* of the Most High, and the time is said to be come that *they* should possess the kingdom *.

I may observe also, that it appears as a defect in Mr. Faber's scheme, that *the periods of the*

* Though Mr. Faber has retracted his opinion expressed in the third edition of his work, that the judgment of the Ancient of days, mentioned in Dan. vii. 26, had begun to sit (from the admission of which it must follow, that the 1260 years, or "the time, times, and the dividing of time," mentioned in verse 25, were already expired); he still allows, as who must not, that the *consumption, destruction, or spoliation*, of the Papacy has commenced. This consumption of the Papacy however is clearly mentioned in the latter part of verse 26, as the *consequence* of the Sitting of the Judgment; and, I must confess, that Mr. Faber's idea (see Christian Observer, 1806, page 281), that these occurrences are *prior*, in point of time, to the Sitting of the Judgment mentioned in the former part of the verse, appears to me perfectly inadmissible.

The reader will find my views of Dan. vii. 25, 26, and 27, already clearly stated by Mr. Cuninghame in the Christian Observer, for the year 1807, pages 701 and 775; and for the year 1808, pages 141, 347.

thirty, and forty-five years, are both referred to the last Vial, which contains *merely the event of one of the seven last plagues* that are inflicted on the Roman empire ; while at the same time *the important events* of the Sitting of the Ancient of days, and the Coming of the Son of Man, are left *without having these, or any suitable periods*, annexed to them.

The first of these periods, namely, that of the Thirty years (which is the period in which we live), being occupied in the destruction of the Roman empire and of the Papacy, is more amply described in prophecy than any other period whatever. The second period of the Forty-five years' Progress of the Gospel, though containing no variety of events, is yet briefly noticed by all the historical prophets ; and is, I conceive, spoken of by the prophet Zechariah (chap. xiv. ver. 6, 7), when he describes a period subsequent to the great battle of Armageddon, as " a day that should not be clear nor dark, " but should be one day known to the Lord, " not day nor night ;" which description he concludes by stating, that " it shall come to " pass that at *eventide* (or at the end of that " period) *it shall be light*;" a conclusion similar to that of Daniel, who speaks of the end of this period of forty-five years, as introducing the period of the Millennium, saying " Blessed

232 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

“ is he that waiteth and cometh to the thousand
“ three hundred and five and thirty days*.”
And so Saint John also, speaking of the termination of this period, says, “ Blessed are they
“ which are called to the marriage-supper of
“ the Lamb †.”

* Dan. xii. 12.

† Rev. xix. 9.

CHAPTER IV.

The Vision of the Ram and the He-goat.

The second Ruling Kingdom of the World, comprehending Media and Persia; the third Ruling Kingdom of the World, comprehending Macedon, Thrace, Syria, and Egypt, and the Mahometan Little Horn, described.

THIS Vision was seen by Daniel two years subsequently to the date of the preceding vision, or in the year A. C. 553; being the third year of Belshazzar, king of Babylon.

As the former vision related chiefly to the great *Western*, or Papal Apostacy, so the principal object of this is to describe the Apostacy of the *East*; and the beautiful and striking prophecies here introduced respecting the Medo-Persian and Grecian empires, may be considered as introductory only to its main design,

234 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

which is to give the history of the Mahometan Little Horn.

We find that the first of the four Beasts is not mentioned in this prophecy, because it was written only fourteen years before the taking of Babylon by Cyrus; and the forces of the Medes and Persians were already united together, and were making advances towards the attainment of the empire of the world; the *second* Beast, or the united kingdom of Media and Persia, is therefore made the immediate subject of the prophecy, and the kingdom of Babylon is passed over. The fourth Beast, representing the Western Roman empire, is also here unnoticed; because it was not connected with the Mahometan Apostacy, whose permanent influence was confined to the territories of the three first ruling kingdoms of the world.

The prophecy is given in the following words, Dan. chap. viii. ver. 1, “ In the third
“ year of the reign of King Belshazzar, a vision
“ appeared unto me, even unto me, Daniel,
“ after that which appeared unto me at the first.
“ 2. And I saw in a vision, and it came to pass,
“ when I saw, that I was at Shushan, in the
“ palace, which is in the province of Elam; and
“ I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of
“ Ulai. 3. Then I lifted up mine eyes, and I
“ saw, and behold there stood before the river

“ a Ram, which had two horns; and the
“ two horns were high, but one was higher
“ than the other, and the higher came up
“ last.”

And afterwards the vision is thus interpreted by the angel, ver. 15. “ And it came to pass,
“ when I, even I, Daniel, had seen the vision,
“ and sought for the meaning, then, behold,
“ there stood before me as the appearance of a
“ man. 16. And I heard a man's voice be-
“ tween the banks of Ulai, which called, and
“ said, Gabriel, make this man to understand
“ the vision. 17. So he came near where I
“ stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and
“ fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Un-
“ derstand, O son of man: for at the time of
“ the end shall be the vision. 18. Now as he
“ was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep
“ on my face toward the ground: but he
“ touched me, and set me upright. 19. And
“ he said, Behold, I will make thee know what
“ shall be in the last end of the indignation:
“ for at the time appointed the end shall be.
“ 20. The Ram which thou sawest having two
“ horns, are the kings of Media and Persia.
“ 21. And the rough Goat is the king of Grecia:
“ and the great horn that is between his eyes
“ is the first king.”

As it is said, in the introduction to the vi-

sion, that Daniel, as minister to the King of Babylon, was then resident in the royal palace of Shushan ; we learn that Shushan, with the province of Elam, of which it was the metropolis, was, at the date of the vision, in the hands of the Babylonians ; but about three years after, Abradates, Viceroy or Prince of Shushan, revolting to Cyrus, it was thenceforth joined to the empire of the Medes and Persians.

The Prophet, in relating the vision, describes himself as being by the river Ulai, when he sees a Ram standing before it. Now the river Ulai is situated between the kingdom of Babylon and the kingdoms of Media and Persia ; the position of the Ram therefore, as it appeared to Daniel standing before that river, aptly represented the situation of the kingdom of the Medes and Persians, or rather of its forces, at the time the vision was seen.

That the then actual situation of the Medes and Persians, is the object of the description, and that the river Ulai was not made the scene of the first part of the vision, merely because Daniel, when he saw the vision, was himself in the neighbourhood of that river, will appear from a subsequent part of the prophecy, where this first position of the Ram is again referred to, and (being then advanced into Asia Minor, in which place it was overthrown by the He-

goat) it is spoken of as the Ram that Daniel "had seen standing before the river."

And here it seems necessary to remark, that though I consider the four Beasts as symbols of four kingdoms, distinguished from each other, and forming a territorial division of the whole prophetic Earth, and having therefore each its peculiar territory, yet I do not understand that these *living* Beasts represent the territories themselves, but chiefly the strength, population, and forces, belonging to them. The forces and strength of the kingdom of the Medes and Persians, we see, by the description given by Daniel, were confined to the side of the river Ulai; for they had not yet passed over into the province of Babylon, and still less into Asia Minor.

I may here observe, that other instances are found in this prophecy, where an allusion is made to geographical position, *viz.*, in the description given of the conquests of the Medes and Persians (ver. 4), in that of the march of Alexander the Great to attack Darius (ver. 5), and in that of the Mahometan conquests (ver. 9).

The accuracy with which the situation of this kingdom, at the time Daniel saw the vision, is here described, is worthy of particular notice, as tending to confirm the principle, which will be found to be universally true, that the histo-

rical prophecies all commence from the time in which the prophets wrote.

The Ram is said to have two horns, which the Angel interprets as representing “the kings (or kingdoms) of Media and Persia;” of these, Persia, which ultimately became the higher, came up last, for it was the more modern nation, and may perhaps be considered as having arisen as a horn of this Beast, only six years previously to the date of the vision, or in the year A. C. 559, when the Persians came as auxiliaries under Cyrus to his uncle Cyaxares, the King of the Medes. These last, as being the most ancient nation, are always first named in history; and the empire is called that of the Medes and Persians, not that of the Persians and Medes: but the Persian horn must be considered as having, agreeably to the prophecy, become the highest, when Cyrus, the Persian, became the head of the united kingdoms; accordingly, after this time, it is generally spoken of only as the *Persian Empire*.

4. “I saw the Ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.” The conquests of Cyrus are here described, by which the kingdom of the Medes

and Persians obtained the empire of the world, or "became great," none being able to resist them. They are described in history in the same order in which they are related in the symbolical description of the prophet; only it is to be observed, that of his conquests in a southerly direction, one alone is mentioned, being that of the most importance, namely, the taking of Babylon; which was the last event, and completed his success; and which is described by the pushing southward of the Ram.

The following quotation from the history of Prideaux, will form the best commentary upon this part of the prophecy, describing the conquests of the Medes and Persians in a westerly, northerly, and southerly direction: "The Medes and Persians growing still upon the Babylonians, and Cyrus making great progress in his conquests, by taking fortresses, towns, and provinces, from them; to put a stop to this prevailing power, the King of Babylon, about the fifth year of his reign, taking a great part of his treasure with him, goes into Lydia to King Cræsus, his confederate, and there, by his assistance, framed a very formidable confederacy against the Medes and Persians, and with his money, hiring a very numerous army of Egyptians, Greeks, Thra-

Anno 551.
Belshazzar 5.

“ cians, and all the nations of Lesser Asia, he
 “ appointed Crœsus to be their General, and
 “ sent him with them to invade Media, and
 “ then returned again to Babylon.

“ Cyrus having full intelligence of all these
 “ proceedings, made suitable preparations to
 “ withstand the storm ; and when all was ready,
 “ marched against the enemy. By this time,
 “ Crœsus had passed over the river Halys,
 “ taken the city of Pteria, and in a manner de-
 “ stroyed all the country there-

“ about : but before he could pass Anno 548.
Belshazzar 8.

“ any further, Cyrus came up with
 “ him, and having engaged him in battle, put
 “ all his numerous army to flight ; whereon
 “ Crœsus returning to Sardis, the chief city of
 “ his kingdom, dismissed all his auxiliaries,
 “ ordering them to be again with him at the
 “ beginning of the ensuing spring : but Cyrus,
 “ pursuing the advantage of his victory, fol-
 “ lowed close after him into Lydia,” when the
 few forces that Crœsus could collect together
 being defeated, he shut himself up in Sardis,
 where “ Cyrus pressed the siege so vigorously,
 “ that he took the city before any of his allies
 “ could come to its relief, and Crœsus in it.”

“ After this Cyrus continued sometime in
 “ Lesser Asia, till he had brought all the se-
 “ veral nations which inhabited it, from the

“ Egean Sea” (the *Western* boundary of his
“ conquests) to the Euphrates, into subjection
“ to him. From hence he went into Syria and
“ Arabia, and there did the same thing ; and
“ then marched into the upper” (or *Northern*)
“ countries of Asia, and having there also set-
“ tled all things in a thorough obedience under
“ his dominion, he again entered Assyria, and
“ marched on” (*Southward*) “ towards Baby-
“ lon, that being the only place which now
“ held out against him : and having overthrown
“ Belshazzar in battle, he shut him up in Ba-
“ bylon, and there besieged him. This hap-
“ pened in the ninth year after the taking of
“ Sardis. This siege proved a very difficult
“ work ;” yet, after two years, he took the city
by stratagem, turning the course of the river,
and entering it through the channel thus laid
dry, “ and this concluded all his conquests, after
“ a war of one and twenty years. For so long
“ was it from his coming out of Persia with
“ his army for the assistance of Cyaxares, to
“ his taking of Babylon ; during all which
“ time he lay abroad in the field, carrying
“ on his conquests from place to place, till
“ at length he had subdued all the East, from
“ the Egean Sea to the river Indus, and *thereby*
“ *erected the greatest Empire that had ever*
“ *been in Asia to that time.*”

There is no mention made in the prophecy of any further actions of the Ram, as nothing worthy of notice was afterwards performed; the expedition of Cambyses, the son of Cyrus, into Egypt and Ethiopia, in which he lost almost the whole of the army; and the latter expedition of Darius into Thrace, in the year A. C. 513, from which “he returned with the loss of half his army;” or those of Xerxes against Greece, carried on between the years A. C. 480, and A. C. 469, from which may be dated the decline of the Persian empire, being by no means to be considered as contained in this account, which describes only those actions by which the empire of the Medes and Persians was first established, or by which they “*became great.*”

In the following verses we are told, that the kingdom of Alexander the Great succeeded to the kingdom of the Medes and Persians; its rapid conquests, great strength, and extensive but transitory dominion, are beautifully and accurately described. Ver. 5. “And as I
“ was considering, behold an He-goat came
“ from the West on the face of the whole earth,
“ and touched not the ground; and the Goat
“ had a notable horn between his eyes. 6. And
“ he came to the Ram that had two horns,
“ which I had seen standing before the river,

“ and ran unto him in the fury of his power.
“ 7. And I saw him come close unto the Ram,
“ and he was moved with choler against him,
“ and smote the Ram, and brake his two horns ;
“ and there was no power in the Ram to stand
“ before him, but he cast him down to the
“ ground, and stamped upon him ; and there
“ was none that could deliver the Ram out of
“ his hand. 8. Therefore the He-goat waxed
“ very great : and when he was strong, the
“ great horn was broken, and for it came
“ up four notable ones toward the four winds
“ of heaven.”

These words describe the victories obtained by Alexander the Great over Darius ; with the consequent fall of the Persian, and the rise of the Grecian empire, and the subsequent division of the kingdom of Alexander into four minor kingdoms ; and as I can add nothing to Bishop Newton's interpretation of this part of the prophecy, I shall give it in his own words.

The He-goat is said to come with extraordinary swiftness from the West, or from Europe ; and the marches of Alexander at the head of the forces of Greece “ were so swift, and his conquests so rapid, that he might be said in a manner to fly over the ground without touching it ; he flew with victory swifter than others can travel ; often with his horse pursuing his ene-

mies with the spur whole days and nights, and sometimes making long marches for several days one after the other ; as once he did in pursuit of Darius, of near forty miles a day, for eleven days together ; so that by the speed of his marches he came upon his enemy before they were aware of him, and conquered them before they could be in a posture to resist him.” Bishop Newton observes further, that “ we can hardly read the description given of the overthrow of the Ram by the He-goat, without having some image of Darius’s army standing and guarding the river Granicus, and of Alexander on the other side with his forces plunging in, swimming across the stream, and rushing on the enemy with all the fire and fury that can be imagined. It was certainly a strange, rash, mad attempt, with only about thirty-five thousand men to attack, at such disadvantage, an army of more than five times the number : but he was successful in it, and this success diffused a terror of his name, and opened his way to the conquest of Asia. ‘ And I saw him close unto the Ram :’ he had several close engagements, or set battles with the King of Persia, and particularly at the river Granicus, in Phrygia, at the Straits of Issus, in Cilicia, and in the plains of Arbela, in Assyria. ‘ And was moved with choler against him,’ for the cruel-

ties which the Persians had exercised towards the Grecians. 'And he smote the Ram, and brake his two horns.' He subdued Persia and Media, with the other provinces and kingdoms of the Persian empire, and it is memorable, that, in Persia, he barbarously sacked and burned the royal city of Persepolis, the capital of the empire; and in Media, Darius was seized and made prisoner by some of his own traitor-subjects, who, not long afterwards, basely murdered him. 'And there was no power in the Ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him; he conquered wherever he came, routed all the forces, took all the cities and castles, and entirely subverted and ruined the Persian empire. 'And there was none that could deliver the Ram out of his hand;' not even his numerous armies could defend the King of Persia, though his forces in the battle of Issus amounted to six hundred thousand men, and in that of Arbela to ten or eleven hundred thousand men; whereas the whole number of Alexander's was not more than forty-seven thousand in either engagement. So true is the observation of the Psalmist, xxxiii. 16, 'There is no king saved by the multitude of an host:' and, especially when God hath decreed the fall of empires, that even the greatest must fall. The fortune of Alex-

ander, of which so much hath been said, Plutarch hath written a whole treatise about it ; the fortune of Alexander was nothing but the providence of God.”

“ The notable horn between the eyes of the He-goat, is explained by the angel to represent the first king, or the kingdom of the Greeks in Asia, which was erected by Alexander the Great, and continued for some years in his brother Philip Aridœus, and his two young sons, Alexander Ægus and Hercules. ‘ But when the He-goat was strong, the great horn was broken’ —which the angel thus interprets, ver. 22. ‘ Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.’ The empire of the Goat was in its full strength, when Alexander died of a fever at Babylon : he was succeeded on the throne by his natural brother, Philip Aridœus, and by his own two sons, Alexander Ægus and Hercules : but in the space of about fifteen years they were all murdered, and then the first *horn*, or kingdom, was entirely *broken*. The royal family being thus extinct, the governors of provinces, who had usurped the power, assumed the title of kings : and, by the defeat and death of Antigonus, at the battle of Ipsus, they were reduced to four, Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy, and Seleu-

cus, who parted Alexander's dominions between them, and divided and settled them into four kingdoms."

The chief object of the prophecy of the Ram and the He-goat, is to give the history of the Mahometan Power. We are now regularly carried down to the time of the divided Macedonian empire. The prophecy thus continues: 9. " And out of one of them came forth a little
" horn, which waxed exceeding great toward
" the south, and toward the east, and toward
" the pleasant land ;" which passage the angel interprets as follows: 22. " Now that" (or the great horn) " being broken, whereas four stood
" up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out
" of the nation, but not in his power. 23.
" And in the latter time of their kingdom,
" when the transgressors are come to the full,
" a king of fierce countenance, and under-
" standing dark sentences, shall stand up. 24.
" And his power shall be mighty, but not by
" his own power : and he shall destroy won-
" derfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and
" shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.
" 25. And through his policy also he shall
" cause craft to prosper in his hand, and he
" shall magnify himself in his heart, and by
" peace shall destroy many ; he shall also stand

“ up against the Prince of princes; but he
 “ shall be broken without hand.”

The Mahometan power which originated at Mecca, is here described as appearing amongst the four kingdoms of the divided Macedonian empire; and we find, that about the year 632, it first appeared upon the prophetic Earth, in the upper part of Arabia, which formed part of the kingdom that fell to the share of Ptolemy, upon the division of the empire into four parts*. It is said to appear “ in the *latter time of their kingdom,*” that is after their dominion was passed away from them, and they had become subject to the Romans.

We have already observed in the vision of the four Beasts, that the little horn is described as “ having eyes,” on account of its being meant to represent a prophet or teacher; and we may observe that the little horn here spoken of, is also described as bearing a prophetic character, for it is said to represent “ a king understanding dark sentences;” that is, who is a teacher of some new and mysterious doctrine, implied under the term dark sentences; in which sense the phrase is used in the following passage of the Psalms: “ I will incline mine ear to a parable, I will open my

* Rollin, vol. viii. chap. II. sect. 1,

“ *dark sentence* upon the harp.” The Prophet here is also said to be a warrior, or one “ of
“ *fierce countenance.*”

Echard observes, that “ as Mahomet recom-
“ mended his doctrine by indulging his prose-
“ lytes in their sensual desires, so he took care
“ to plant and propagate it by the power of the
“ sword ; promising peculiar recompences in
“ his imaginary paradise to those who appeared
“ the valiant assertors of it; upon which ac-
“ count it gained incredible ground in a short
“ time. He first spread it in his native country,
“ which was Arabia the Happy; where the peo-
“ ple, for the generality, were buried in a pro-
“ found ignorance, and divided into twelve
“ sorts or sects of religion, and all of them
“ Pagan and Idolatrous. When he found his
“ doctrine almost universally received there,
“ he placed himself at the head of a company
“ of thieves and fugitive slaves, who fled from
“ all parts to him, allured by a promise he had
“ given of protecting them, and by a law he
“ had taught and published, that *it was the will*
“ *and command of God that all men should be*
“ *free.* By the help of these proselytes he as-
“ sumed a sovereign power, and so by a double
“ usurpation declared himself both King and
“ Prophet of the Saracens.”

It will be interesting to us, who live in the

days of Infidelity, to remark, that the Mahometan and Infidel powers are both (Rev. chap. ix. 2, and xi. 7) described as rising “*out of the bottomless pit;*” by which is doubtless implied, that they bring with them *the doctrines of Devils*. So we shall find a remarkable resemblance between them; for the doctrines promulgated by each allowed a freedom from all restraint of laws, human and divine. Their followers were taught that they were free to abandon themselves to their own lusts, and free to seize, by force of arms, the possessions of others.

The following expressions found in the prophecy, that “*His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power,*”—that “*by peace he shall destroy many,*”—that “*through his policy he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand,*” I conceive are all meant to point out a peculiarity in the Mahometan power, viz., that it would chiefly owe its *success in arms* to the promulgation of its *new doctrines*; so we find that the progress of its arms has been at all times furthered by its making converts of the inhabitants of the countries it overran, and also by the enthusiasm produced in the Mahometan armies by their principles, and by their avowed design of rendering their faith universal.

And here we find a perfect resemblance be-

tween the French Infidel, and the Mahometan powers: for as the one was produced by the preaching of Mahomet, so the other sprang up from the dissemination of the doctrines of Voltaire: and both have been alike zealous in their endeavours to obtain universal empire, by uniting the influence of the seduction of their doctrine, to that of the terror of their arms.

The Mahometan power is said to arise "when the transgressors are come to the full;" from which it appears, that the Saracens were raised up in order that they might chastise the corrupt members of the Greek Church. So, in the Revelations, we find the symbolical representation of the *third* Trumpet describes the introduction of the heresy of Nestorius into the Greek Church, which happened about the year 429; and afterwards, the sounding of the *fifth* Trumpet introduces the Saracenic Woe, which began after an interval of about two hundred years from the first introduction of the heresy, when, as we learn from this prophecy, the "transgressors were come to the full."

The Mahometan power is said "to wax exceeding great towards *the South*, and towards *the East*, and towards *the pleasant land*."

The first seat of the Mahometan Power was in *the South*, Mecca being the birth-place of the Prophet, and the Peninsula of Arabia the

scene of his conquests. His successors extended their empire, and first entered upon the prophetic Earth in the upper part of Arabia, which was the *Southern* part of the Macedonian empire. They then directed their arms towards the *East*, “ and having overcome the Persians
 “ in the year 632*, and slain Hormisda the
 “ Second, the last Persian king of the race of
 “ Artaxerxes, they seized on the kingdom,
 “ and buried the renown of that nation in captivity.” Afterwards, having completed their conquest of Arabia, by the capture of Bosra, the capital City, they marched into Syria, took Damascus, and laid siege to Jerusalem, which they also took, A. D. 637, after a siege of two years: thus extending their conquests “ *towards the pleasant land.*”

The Mahometans afterwards further extended their conquests, towards the East, to the river Indus; towards the West, over Africa and part of Spain; and towards the North, over Asia Minor and Greece.

10th verse. “ And it waxed great, even to
 “ the host of heaven, and it cast down some of
 “ the host, and of the stars, to the ground, and
 “ stamped upon them.” In symbolical language, the Host of heaven, and the Stars, when

* Echard Rom. Hist. in loc.

applied to spiritual things, represent the Ministers of the Church; that is, if the Host of heaven and the stars are to be taken as different expressions for one and the same thing: but if the expression Host of heaven, is to be considered as meaning the universal system of the heavenly bodies, including stars of greater and less magnitude, then the Host of Heaven must be considered as meaning the Church; and the greater stars alone, as distinguished from the inferior ones, must represent the Bishops and Pastors of that Church. This interpretation of the symbol of the Stars, when applied to spiritual things, is fully confirmed by Revelations, chap. i. verse 20, where the seven Stars are said to be the seven Angels, or Bishops of the seven Churches of Asia Minor; to whom the Apostle is afterwards directed to address those seven beautiful Epistles, with which the Book of Revelations commences: and in every other instance it will be found that when a Star is mentioned in the Revelations, it means, if applied to spiritual things, a Bishop, or Pastor of the Church.

This expression, “*some of the host, and of the stars,*” were cast to the ground, is not, I conceive, intended to imply, that only a certain proportion of the Ministers of the Church were cast down, where the influence of Mahomet

prevailed; but in strict agreement with the symbols used by Saint John, the Ministers and Pastors of the *Eastern Church* are considered as *part* of the Stars belonging to the whole prophetic Earth; in Saint John, they are called “the *third part* of the Stars,” here they are called “*some* of the Stars;” and we thus are led to understand, that the superstition of Mahomet affected *only* the *Eastern Church*.

Ver. 11. “Yea, he magnified himself even to “the prince of the host; and by him the daily “sacrifice was taken away, and the place of “his sanctuary was cast down.” Mahomet allowed our Saviour to be superior to Abraham and Moses; but as coming last, he considered himself as still superior to Christ; and thus “magnified himself to” him who is “the “Prince of the host,” or the head of his Church. “The daily sacrifice” of prayer offered to our Saviour, was taken away, and “the place of his sanctuary,” or the Eastern Church, was cast down.

Ver. 12. “And an host was given him against “the daily sacrifice, by reason of transgression, “and it cast down the truth to the ground, and “it practised and prospered.” The reason why this power was given to Mahomet, is here made known; it was given by “reason of transgression,” or because the Eastern Church had

left the simplicity of the true faith, and was filled with the most heretical opinions. The Dragon some time before, as represented in Revelations xii. 4, had drawn down with his Tail “ the *third part* of the Stars of heaven ;” that is, the Devil had already seduced, by False Doctrines, the Bishops of the Eastern Church, or the third part of the Stars; and Mahomet was commissioned to chastise their departure from the faith, and to take away the form of worship where there was no longer any spirituality : and so in the parallel prophecy in Revelations ix. 4, we find, the Saracens were commissioned not to hurt the “ *grass or any green thing*, neither “ any tree, but only those men which had not “ *the Seal of God in their forehead :*” that is, not to hurt any *spiritual worshippers*, but only those, who having departed from the faith, were no longer under *the protection of God*, or considered as his servants. “ It cast down the “ truth to the ground,” for the Mahometan Power, ignorant that it was God alone that enabled it to prevail against the Eastern Church and Empire, exalted itself against God, and cast down the truth, denying the Divinity of our Saviour. “ And it practised and prospered.” Success attended it in all that it was permitted to perform, and it was enabled to place itself on the ruins of the Church and Empire, and

to stand there as the great apostatical power of the East.

Ver. 13. " Then I heard one saint speaking,
 " and another saint said unto that certain saint
 " which spake, How long shall be the vision
 " concerning the daily sacrifice, and the trans-
 " gression of desolation to give both the sanc-
 " tuary, and the host to be trodden under foot.
 " 14. And he said unto me, unto two thousand
 " three hundred" (or as the Septuagint reads,
 two thousand four hundred) " days ; then shall
 " the Sanctuary be cleansed."

It has already been clearly shewn in examin-
 ing other prophecies, that the 1260 years' pros-
 perity of the Papacy terminated in the year
 1792 ; and that the thirty years' destruction of
 the Roman Empire will terminate in the year
 1822, when the Papal and Infidel Powers will
 be destroyed, and the Jews restored to their
 own land ; after this, we have found, that pro-
 phetic history becomes less distinct, and that
 the world is left in a state of trouble, " such as
 " there never was since there was a nation *,"
 nothing more being mentioned except the bless-
 edness of those who should reach to the end of
 a *further period of forty-five years*, † or to the
 year 1867.

The importance of that part of the prophecy

* Dan. xii. 1.

† Dan. xii. 12.

which is now before us, will therefore appear, if we consider that it is the only source from which any further information can be derived respecting this period, of which so little is said; and the result of my examination of it, whether satisfactory or not, I can assure the reader has at least been fairly obtained; indeed for some time I considered myself as disappointed in the result: though this did not alter my opinion, that but one interpretation could be admitted.

It may be well perhaps here to state, that in examining any prophecy, it has always been my practice, in order to secure an unbiassed judgment, not to make a comparison of it with history, till I had previously given it the fullest examination by itself; because prophetic narrative may be obscured by preconceived notions, but the language of history is incapable of being perverted.

In undertaking the examination of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat, the following then were the expectations I formed from a consideration of the prophecy alone; first, I was decidedly of opinion, that the history detailed in it began in the year in which the vision was seen; secondly, of the three readings, which are mentioned as found in different manuscripts, namely, 2400 years, 2300 years, and 2200 years, I expected that the first would

be found to be the true number of Daniel : my reason for this opinion was, that it is a sacred number, or divisible by three, which all the known numbers of Daniel are, a property not found either in the number 2300, or 2200. Thirdly, I expected that the period would terminate either with the year 1822, or the year 1867. But though on the general principle, *that all the prophecies are formed on one plan*, I concluded that the expiration of the 2400 years (their commencement being fixed to the third year of Belshazzar) would be found to coincide with some other period, I could not, in considering the years 1822 and 1867, give a preference to one period rather than another, for there were objections to both ; first, the year 1822 appeared to be too early ; for if the kingdom of Christ were to make so rapid a progress, as that in the *same year* in which the Jews are first restored to their own land, the nations of the East should be completely cleansed from the Mahometan superstition, it seemed inconsistent to suppose, that the further period of *forty-five* years would elapse before the conversion of the Pagan nations of India, &c. would be effected, and before the period of universal blessedness would commence ; when every nation in the world will form a part of the Church of Christ.

On the other hand, the year 1867 appeared to be too late, for if the sanctuary of the Eastern Church was not to be cleansed from the Mahometan superstition till that year, there would be a longer interval than we could suppose, between the restoration of the Jews, in the year 1822, and the establishment of the spiritual worship of Christ among the people situated in the immediate vicinity of the restored Jewish Church: and as the only event we know of, which is to take place from the fall of the Roman empire and the Papacy, to the establishment of the kingdom of Christ, is the consumption of the Roman empire as it were, by burning; those days would thus appear to be much prolonged, which Daniel describes, when he says, "There shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation;" and of which our Saviour speaks typically, when he says, "That except those days should be shortened, no flesh should be saved."

Such were my previous expectations, which, as usual, I wrote down, or fixed firmly in my mind, before I proceeded to prove the correctness of them. My disappointment was afterwards very great, on referring to the work of Prideaux, to find that the third year of Belshazzar, when the vision was seen, was the year

553 before Christ, and therefore that the period of 2400 years would terminate neither in the year 1822 or 1867, but in the year 1847. This was the more disappointing, as it was the last prophecy I had to examine, and I had already succeeded to my full satisfaction in every other part of the prophetic writings of Daniel, Esdras, and Saint John ; but finding that even no probable conjectural amendment of the numbers would give any satisfactory result, I considered the case as perfectly hopeless, and intended so to represent it, and to recommend the waiting for the event ; or, as a last hope, the consultation of other manuscripts, if such should ever be discovered.

The precision I had hitherto found in prophecy led me, as I have just observed, to expect that this period of 2400 years would terminate with one or other of the periods elsewhere mentioned by Daniel ; for I did not see, without such coincidence, how the interpretation of a single and detached prophecy could ever be convincing and satisfactory. It was not, therefore, till after every hope had left me, that I observed that a remarkable agreement was shewn, even by the result I had obtained, between all the numbers of Daniel ; for, though the period of the 2400 years is not thus made to terminate with either of the other periods, it

exactly divides the difference between them into two regular portions; a coincidence, but a degree less remarkable, than if it had terminated at the same time with one of them; and more suitable to my expectations, as it removed the difficulty I had found in fixing upon either, the one being too early, and the other being too late.

The reader then will observe, that the year 1847 divides the period of 45 years into two regular portions of 25 and 20 years each: the periods formed by all the numbers of Daniel, will therefore be 1260 years, 30 years, 25 years, and 20 years; the first period ended in the year 1792, for the Papacy having prospered 1260 years, then suddenly began to fall; the second period will terminate in the year 1822, with the final destruction of the Roman empire and of the Papacy, and with the commencement of the restoration of the Jews; the third period (if rightly calculated) will terminate in the year 1847, with the removal of the Mahometan superstition from the Eastern Church, or rather perhaps from all the nations of the East where it is now professed; and the fourth and last period will terminate in the year 1867, with the reception of the nations of China and India, and all the idolatrous nations of the whole world into the Church of Christ.

I must apologize for having detained the reader with so minute a detail, but the confidence, to be placed in any result must depend, in a great degree, upon the way in which it has been obtained ; every one is therefore bound to explain minutely the method used by him, especially in such a case as this, where the subject is of the greatest importance, and the result may perhaps by some be considered as questionable. It is certainly not directly supported by any other Prophecy ; but, considering that the event could not so well fall into any other place, and that the number falls into an interval, so as to form a regular series with the other numbers of Daniel, I confess, though I dare not say that it is certain, it appears to me to be satisfactory. I might indeed plead, that it is the most satisfactory solution that the question admits of, for I have already explained that it would not have been in all respects satisfactory, had the result been either of the two numbers I was led to expect, from supposing that a precise and marked termination of the period could not be elsewhere obtained.

We suppose therefore the answer of the Saint to the question, how long the vision should last till the sanctuary should be cleansed from the Mahometan superstition ? to imply, that it would be cleansed in the year 1847 ; but,

as the Papal Power began to fall 30 years previously to the year in which it will be entirely removed from the sanctuary of the Western Church, it may be supposed that the Mahometan Power will also begin to fall some years previously to its being entirely removed from the Sanctuary of the Eastern Church. As it has been raised and supported by the sword, so the beginning of its fall ought, doubtless, to be dated from the fall of the Ottoman empire, which is the event that next succeeds in the Prophecies of Saint John, to the judgments of the fifth Vial inflicted upon the kingdom of France. Whenever therefore these shall be accomplished, we may shortly expect the fall of the Ottoman empire to follow, and consequently the fall of the Mahometan Religion to commence.

It is said in a following verse, that in the end it should be "*broken without hand;*" by which expression we may suppose that there is a reference made to a passage in the vision of the Great Image, where the destruction of the nations of the Western Roman empire is said to be effected by the smiting of the Stone "*cut out without hands;*" for we find that the Eastern and Western empires are broken at the same time, and involved in one common destruction; the Ottoman or Eastern empire being

destroyed upon the pouring out of one of the seven Vials, which occupy the period of the destruction of the Western empire.

The expression, that the stone is “*cut out without hand*,” I have before explained in considering the vision of the Great Image, as implying, that the destruction of the nations of the Western empire, and the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ, is not the work of man, but of God. So we see that now, as formerly, the enemies of the Church are confounded and destroyed by an unseen influence; “*a tumult from the Lord*” is every where upon them, therefore, as in old time, every man’s hand is against his fellow, and they are smiting down one another and destroying one another*.

This description, and that also given in the Revelations, where we find that the destruction of the Ottoman empire is symbolically represented by the river Euphrates being *dried up*, might appear to authorise the supposition that its power will *gradually* waste away, and that its end will be, that its resources will be dried up by internal dissensions, fightings, and civil wars: yet I do not think that we can form any very decided opinion on this subject, because it might be said to be broken without

* Judg. vii. 22. 1 Sam. xiv. 20. Zech. xiv. 13.

hand, or by the stone cut out without hands, that is, by the power of Christ, were a foreign power influenced to become the instrument of its destruction; and as the Ottoman empire, from its first commencement, has been symbolized by the river Euphrates, the *entire removal* of this Empire (in order to prepare the way for the return of the ten tribes) *from whatever causes its fall may proceed*, could not be represented by any symbolical description more expressive, than by the *drying up* of this river. In three or four years, however, there is every reason to believe, that the question as to the manner of the fall of the Ottoman empire, which I do not see can with certainty be previously determined from the prophecy, will be decided by the event.

Remarks upon the Interpretations given by former Commentators of the Vision of the Ram and He-goat.

The "little horn," which is the principal object in this prophecy, and which we are told represents "a king of fierce countenance, and "understanding dark sentences, who should "destroy the mighty and the Holy people," was supposed by the older commentators to represent Antiochus Epiphanes; and the eleventh

verse, where it is said that he magnified himself even “to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down,” was understood literally, and was considered as relating to the Temple of Jerusalem, and not to the Church of Christ, of which that Temple is universally admitted to have been a type.

But though by thus adopting a literal interpretation, the history of the little horn was made to agree in some measure with the history of Antiochus Epiphanes, the enemy and cruel persecutor of the Jews, the application fails (as Sir Isaac Newton has shewn) in so many instances, that this interpretation of the symbol is clearly inadmissible.

Sir Isaac has therefore proposed, and Bishop Newton has also adopted, an interpretation of this prophecy, in which the little horn of the He-goat is considered to be a symbol of *the Empire of the Romans as established in the East*, or in those countries which had before been the seat of the Macedonian empire; and it is supposed that “their actions within the dominions of the Goat, and not their affairs in the Western empire, are the principal subjects of this prophecy.” This interpretation has also been adopted by Mr. Cuninghame.

But though the countries of the East, which

were conquered by the Romans, were afterwards overrun by the Mahometans, and though the Romans cast down and destroyed the Temple at Jerusalem, and caused the daily sacrifice to cease, as Mahomet and his Successors overthrew the spiritual Temple of the Christian Church, and took away the daily sacrifice of prayer, and it therefore happens that the prophecy may be accommodated in some measure to the Roman Power in the East, yet in many particulars this interpretation of the symbol also will be found to fail: and I agree with Mr. Faber on general principles, that the prophecy is only applicable to the Mahometan Apostacy; because, as he observes, it is improbable "that the same power (*i. e.*, the Roman) which, in the former vision was represented under the symbol of a great and terrible beast, should now be described under that of only a *little horn*;" and again, because Daniel would thus be made "liable to the charge of unvarying repetition, for if the little horn of the He-goat, or third Beast, be *the Roman empire*, the vision of the Ram and He-goat is a mere repetition of the greater part of the vision of the Four Beasts:" whereas, if we apply it to the Mahometan Power, we have an appropriate

and distinct subject for each of the prophecies of Daniel. In the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, the *temporal histories* of the four great Empires are first given, by which the history of the world, since the days of Daniel, has been divided into four distinct periods. In the vision of the four Beasts the histories of the same four empires are repeated, *for the evident purpose of introducing* in the second place, *the history of the Great Western or Papal Apostacy*, which has now already infected one half of the Christian Church for a period of more than twelve centuries. In the vision of the Ram and the He-goat, the histories of the Medo-Persian and Macedonian empires are a third time repeated, *for the purpose of introducing* in the third place, *the history of the Great Eastern or Mahometan Apostacy*, which has for nearly an equal period infected the other half of the Christian Church, situated in those countries which were formerly the seats of these Empires; and finally, in the vision of Daniel, in which he is informed of "that which is noted in the scripture of truth," the lives of individual Kings of Persia, Greece, Syria, and Egypt, &c., are successively narrated, *for the purpose of introducing* the history of the most extraordinary individual that

ever existed, *the great Infidel Power of the last days* *.

We also find, that according to this interpretation, while an appropriate subject is given to each of the prophecies of Daniel, and the whole together embrace a complete history of the world, and of the Church, the analogy of the prophetic symbols is accurately maintained; for the Great Western and Eastern Apostacies are respectively symbolized by the two similar little Horns, bearing a prophetic character, which rose upon the Ten-horned Monster, and upon the third, or Macedonian Beast.

But while I admire the perfection of the prophecies of Daniel, as exhibited in this general plan, and the beauty of the analogy thus maintained in the description of the two great Apostacies, I cannot but lament that Mr. Faber has been led to carry the parallel between them a step further than he was authorised to do by any scriptural warrant; and that he has made it a fundamental part of his system that they

* This statement agrees with Mr. Faber's general view of these prophecies; except that as he does not consider the Infidel Power as an *individual*, his scheme does not shew the peculiar propriety of this Power's being introduced in the last prophecy of Daniel by histories of *individual kings*, as by those of Persia, Macedon, Syria, Egypt, &c. See *Dan.* chap. xi.

began and would terminate together ; a circumstance which would be connected alone with history, and which, if true, would add nothing to the perfection of prophecy, which consists in the accuracy with which historical facts *are described*, whatever those facts may be. And though Whiston, and I believe other commentators, assign the year 606 for the rise of the Papal horn, this opinion, I conceive, should have been rejected by Mr. Faber, and the 1260 years of the Papacy should have been acknowledged to have commenced before the rise of Mahometanism, when the evidence of facts shewed him, that the seventh Trumpet, which Whiston, Mede, and all the best commentators agree marks the expiration of the 1260 years, sounded in the year 1792.

Former commentators, I believe, attempted to bring no evidence from prophecy of this supposed cotemporary rise of Popery and Mahometanism ; and the elaborate argument (given also in the form of algebraical demonstration)* by which Mr. Faber attempts to give to the opinion a scriptural foundation, is built upon data, which (as I shall hereafter shew in considering the last chapters of Daniel) are in themselves entirely erroneous.

* Faber's Dis. vol. i. 3d. ed. p. 228 ; 4th, p. 256 ; 5th, p. 253.

I have already shewn, that the adoption of this opinion has obliged Mr. Faber to violate the synchronism, which is the most strongly established of any in the whole prophetic writings (see pages 51—53): and in examining his interpretation of the Ram and He-goat, we shall again too plainly discover the effects of this radical error, for it has obliged him to consider the 2400 years of this vision as necessarily terminating at the distance of 1260 years from the first rise of Mahometanism, that is, about the year 1866; and he has been consequently led to assign too late a date to the commencement of the vision. That this is the case, I shall not hesitate to attempt to prove, not only because so important a subject requires every one to speak faithfully, and without partiality, but because I am convinced that every commentator on prophecy, who is truly interested in his subject, and who is desirous to maintain the precision of prophetic language, would wish either that no suspicion should be cast upon his interpretations, or else that the reasons should be clearly and fully brought forward why they are considered to be unsatisfactory.

What must lead us to feel less confidence both in Mr. Faber's and Mr. Cuninghame's interpretations of this vision is, that their dif-

ference of opinion, as to the time of its commencement, appears not to have originated from a consideration of the vision itself, but from their *previous decisions as to the time of the termination of the 1260 years*, which they both suppose synchronizes with *the termination of the period of the 2300 (or 2400) years*.

The year A. C. 553, in which the vision was seen *which is the only accurately defined date in the whole prophecy*, not being admitted to be the date of its commencement, either by Mr. Faber or Mr. Cuninghame, and the victories of Cyrus, the founder of the Persian empire, being by them excluded (by arguments, the soundness of which will hereafter be examined), there remains no other event for a period of at least forty years, which can be supposed to mark the commencement of the vision. Mr. Faber, in endeavouring to fix his date, limits himself however, by the interpretation he adopts, to *a period of twenty-eight years*, beginning with the year A. C. 536; and as he supposes the vision may commence from any point of time in this period, he very explicitly thus states the principle which alone has decided his choice to the precise year, A. C. 535. “ These 1260 days,” he observes, “ as we have already seen, synchronize with “ the last 1260 days of the 2200, 2300, or 2400

“ days; such being the case, we have only to
“ compute backwards 2200, 2300, and 2400
“ years, from the year of our Lord 1866, and
“ according to the epochs to which they re-
“ spectively lead us, we shall be able to decide
“ with some degree of probability, both which
“ of those three numbers is the true reading,
“ and likewise at what era we are to date the
“ commencement of the vision of the Ram
“ and the He-goat.”

This mode of trial leads Mr. Faber to reject the readings 2200 and 2300 years, because these periods, if made to terminate with the supposed termination of the 1260 years, A. D. 1866, must commence respectively in the years A. C. 335, and A. C. 435; which is “ far too late for the proper date of the vision.” He therefore adopts the reading 2400, and consequently supposes the year A. C. 535, being according to Prideaux, the second year, or *possibly* the *latter end* of the first year, after Cyrus had succeeded to the empire on the death of his uncle Cyaxares, to be the true date of the commencement of the vision: at which period the empire was in a state of peace,

Mr. Cuningham having also excluded (though by a different argument from Mr. Faber) the victories of Cyrus from this vision,

finds that it must have commenced according to his interpretation, which differs from that of Mr. Faber, *somewhere within a space of sixteen years*, viz., between the years A. C. 513, and A. C. 497 *, and by a similar process, as we must suppose, of *backward reckoning* from the year 1792 (his date of the end of the 1260 years), is led to fix upon the precise year, A. C. 508, as the proper date of the commencement of this vision; at which period the Persians were engaged in war.

These dates, viz. A. C. 535, and A. C. 508, being therefore the subjects of dispute between Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, the decision of the question as to the correctness of their respective systems, has been made to turn upon the point whether the Ram, when first seen by Daniel, was in a quiescent state, as Mr. Faber supposes, in the year A. C. 535, or in the act of pushing Westward, Northward, and Southward, as Mr. Cuninghame supposes, in the year A. C. 508. There is so little ground however in the prophecy for forming any strong opinion on this subject, that after its having been for several years discussed in the pages of a valuable periodical publication, no advances

* Cuninghame's Dissert. p. 277.

have I conceive been made towards obtaining a satisfactory decision upon it*. We must therefore, it evidently appears, either establish a *higher standard* of prophetic demonstration, or admit that it is in vain to attempt it, and that prophecy is not intended to be the subject of it.

I have before observed, that “the third year of Belshazzar,” or the year A. C. 553, is *the only date precisely established* in the whole vision; it follows therefore, that if we would give to it a satisfactory interpretation, we must in the first place assume that to be the date of its commencement; for (as it has been said in treating of the period of the 1260 years, mentioned in the vision of the four Beasts) it would be in vain that the years were numbered, if the time of their commencement were not precisely marked. I must observe also, that to consider the vision as commencing from the time at which it was seen by the prophet, is not only most natural in itself, but is agreeable to the analogy of all the other prophecies; accordingly we shall find, that the Medo-Persian empire is mentioned no less than four times in different prophecies of Daniel, which circum-

* See Christian Observer, for the years 1807, 1808, 1810, and 1811.

stance is solely owing to his always beginning his prophecy from the period in which he writes, and tracing down the stream of time, by a narrative more or less connected, till he reaches the ultimate and principal object of it, which in the visions of the four Beasts, and of the Ram and the He-goat, and in his last vision, are severally the Papal, the Mahometan, and the Infidel powers.

In referring to the vision of the Great Image in support of this opinion, we shall there find that the prophecy commences *at the period in which the prophet wrote*; for Daniel, in explaining the vision to King Nebuchadnezzar, says, “Thou *art* this head of gold.”

Again, if we refer to the vision of the four Beasts, we find that the kingdom of Babylon is also there described in the state in which it was when the vision was seen; for it is represented by a Lion *having eagle's wings*, because the kingdom of Babylon was then in possession of the empire of the world; and subsequently to this its loss of empire is described, which happened only a few years after the date of the vision.

We shall also find, that the Ram, &c., according to the most simple interpretation of the prophecy now before us, accurately represents the united kingdoms of the Medes and Per-

sians in the state in which it was when the vision was seen ; the Medes and Persians being then established in the neighbourhood of the river Ulai, and not having yet passed over into the province of Babylon. We find also, that the first part of the prophecy accurately describes those victories of Cyrus, which, at the date of the vision, were on the very point of commencing.

In the last vision of Daniel, which gives the history of the Infidel Power, the *time present* is also spoken of, for the angel who communicates the prophecy to Daniel begins it by informing him, that “there shall stand up *yet*,” that is, besides the king *then reigning*, “three kings in “Persia*.”

In the Apocalypse we shall find that the *time present* is also first mentioned as introductory to that which is future ; for Saint John is directed to “write the things that *are*,” and then “the “things which shall be hereafter†;” and so we find that in his prophecy the future histories of the Eastern and Western branches of the empire are preceded by the admonitory and prophetic Epistles addressed to the seven Churches in Asia *then existing*.

The opinion, therefore, that the vision of the

* Dan. xi. 2.

† Rev. i. 19.

278 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

Ram and the He-goat does not commence till eighteen years, as Mr. Faber supposes, or till forty-five years, as Mr. Cuninghame supposes, after Daniel saw the vision, would require the strongest evidence before it could be admitted. I shall now proceed to examine the arguments by which Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame support their interpretations.

Mr. Faber, I find, formerly gave an earlier commencement to the vision, and agreed with Bishop Newton, that the pushings of the Ram Westward, Northward, and Southward, by which he became great, describe, principally at least, the conquests of Cyrus, the founder of the Medo-Persian empire*. The reason given why he now excludes these conquests from the vision, and commences it at a later date, is this, viz., that “*the Ram* is said to have *already* had “*two horns* when Daniel first beheld it †,” and “that this being the case, the date of the vision “cannot be prior to the time when the Ram “began to have two horns,” which Mr. Faber assumes to be after the death of Cyaxares, when the empire was united under the sole dominion of Cyrus.

But might we not argue with equal plausi-

* Faber's Dis. vol. i. 3d edit. p. 262, 4th p. 290, 5th p. 287.

† Faber's Dis. vol. i. 3d edit. p. 260, 4th p. 288, 5th p. 285.

bility in considering the vision of the four Beasts, that the Ten-horned Monster *already* had *ten horns* when it was first seen by Daniel, and therefore that the vision does not commence till a period subsequent to the division of the Roman empire, and the rise of the ten horns; and that the victories of the Monster, which was dreadful and terrible, and strong “exceedingly, that devoured, brake in pieces, “and stamped the residue with his feet,” represent *not the victories of the Romans*, but the subsequent victories of modern Europe since the rise of the ten horns. Mr. Faber will doubtless not allow his argument to be so applied; and the fact is, that from the first description of a symbol at the commencement of a prophecy, we can argue nothing as to the order of events, for we shall find that a symbol is always described in the first instance as complete and perfect in *all its parts* before the chronological narrative begins. With this exception, I agree that we cannot be too strict in refusing to admit any interpretation which would interrupt the regular chronological order of events in a prophecy, upon which order the strength of its internal evidence and its character for accuracy; must entirely depend. Mr. Faber’s opinion, that the two horns did not rise till the Medes

and Persians were united under the sole dominion of Cyrus, is therefore without any support ; but not only so, it may be proved from the prophecy to be erroneous, for it will hardly, I conceive, be denied, that it was at the period when *Cyrus the Persian became the head of the Empire*, that the Persian horn which “ came up “ last” became “ *the highest ;*” the Persian horn must necessarily, however, be supposed to have *arisen* before it outgrew and overtopped the Median horn ; contrary to Mr. Faber’s hypothesis, therefore, the Ram evidently had two horns before the empire fell under the sole dominion of Cyrus the Persian in the year A. C. 536, and Mr. Faber’s argument for not commencing the vision till that year, because it had not till then two horns, is evidently fallacious.

Mr. Cuninghame does not maintain the same opinion with Mr. Faber, as to the time of the rise of the two horns ; but agrees with me, that this event may perhaps be best dated “ from “ the year A. C. 559, when Cyrus was appointed commander of the united armies of “ the Medes and Persians, to conduct the war “ against the Empire of Babylon.” As he therefore does not see the force of the argument, by which Mr. Faber attempts to prove that the

vision begins at a late period, he himself endeavours to prove the same point in a different way.

The Ram, he observes, was seen by Daniel “standing before the river Ulai, *i. e.*, already firmly established to the *west* of that river, in those provinces which had composed the empire of Babylon. This circumstance,” he argues, “shews that the date of the vision cannot be prior to the year A. C. 536*.” Now the conquests of Cyrus being thus necessarily excluded from the vision, there are no other conquests of the Medes and Persians, to which we can refer the pushings of the Ram, till about the year A. C. 513, in the reign of Darius Hystaspes. The vision therefore, says Mr. Cuninghame, must necessarily have begun about that time.

This argument appears to rest upon a merely gratuitous assumption, that when the Ram is said to be seen standing *before* the river Ulai, it means that he was on the Western side of the river; Daniel being, as we are informed, on the Eastern side, in the province of Elam. But might I not with at least equal plausibility say, that as the Ram was seen standing *before* the

* Cuninghame's Dissert, p. 276.

river, it must be understood that he was *facing* it; and that as it is said that he pushed * *Westward*, as a signal of conquest to be made in that direction, he must have been on the *Eastern side* of the river, and could not yet have passed over into Asia Minor.

The reader will also recollect, or will find, by a reference to pages 236, 237, that I have understood in a very different way from Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, the description which the Prophet gives of the first position of the Ram; and finding that it is *first said* to stand before the river Ulai, and *afterwards*, when advanced into Asia Minor, that it is spoken of as the Ram which Daniel *had* seen standing before that river, I have concluded that the position of the Ram, when overthrown by the He-goat, was different from what it was when first seen by Daniel; and that the vision therefore evidently began *before the Ram was established in Asia Minor..*

I do not, however, lay great stress upon any of these arguments; but consider the vision as commencing from the date in which it was seen, principally, because so to consider it is agree-

* "*Butting with his horns*, for such is the meaning of the "original word, and not *running*." Christian Observer, 1811, p. 279.

able to the analogy of all the historical prophecies ; and in adopting this period for its commencement, I find every part of the vision accurately correspond with history.

Having thus considered the arguments upon which the interpretations of Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame are severally founded, I shall now, from the same historian from whose work I extracted the account of the victories of Cyrus (see pages 239—241), quote the account of the victories of Darius Hystaspes—which are supposed by Mr. Faber to be those described by the prophet—that we may thus see how far such an interpretation is fairly admissible.

In the prophecy, we see the Medes and Persians pushing, in regular order, to the *West*, to the *North*, and to the *South*, beating down all opposition ; for it is said, “ that no beasts might “ stand before him,” and establishing themselves, or becoming great, by the overthrow of other kingdoms. The reader has already seen how accurately this representation describes the victories of Cyrus. The victories of Darius Hystaspes are described as follows: “ From the “ time of the reduction of Babylon, Darius “ had set himself to make great preparations “ for a war against the Scythians, that inhabited those countries which lie between the “ Danube and the Tanais. In order whereto,

284 Combined View of the Prophecies.

“ having drawn together an army
 “ of seven hundred thousand men, Anno 513.
Darius 9.
 “ he marched with them to the
 “ Thracian Bosphorus, and having there passed
 “ over it in a bridge of boats, he brought all
 “ Thrace in subjection to him, and then
 “ marched to the Ister or Danube.”—“ He
 “ there passed over another bridge of boats
 “ into the country of the Scythians; and
 “ having there for three months’ time pur-
 “ sued them through several desert and un-
 “ cultivated countries, where they drew him by
 “ their flight of purpose to harass and destroy
 “ his army, *he was glad at last to return with*
 “ *one half of them, having lost the other half*
 “ *in this unfortunate and ill-projected expedi-*
 “ *tion.*”—“ He again repassed the river Danube
 “ into Thrace, where, having left one of his
 “ chief commanders with part of his army to
 “ finish his conquests in those parts, and tho-
 “ roughly settle the country in his obedience,
 “ he repassed the Bosphorus with the rest, and
 “ retired to Sardis, where he staid all the win-
 “ ter, and the most part of the ensuing year, to
 “ refresh his broken forces, and resettle his
 “ affairs in those parts of his empire, after the
 “ shock that had been given them by *the baffle*
 “ *and loss which he had sustained in this ill-*
 “ *advised expedition.*”

“ About this time, Darius being desirous to
“ enlarge his dominions *eastward*,
“ in order to the conquering of Anno 509.
Darius 9.
“ those countries, laid a design of
“ first making a discovery of them ;” which he
successively executed by building a fleet of
ships, and sending it to sail down the whole
course of the river Indus into the southern
ocean. This enterprise being completed, and
the fleet having returned by the way of the
Red Sea, within the space of about two years
and a half from its first sailing, he shortly af-
terwards “ entered India with an army, and
“ brought all that large country under him,
“ and made it the twentieth prefecture of his
“ empire.”

Instead therefore of a series of successful ac-
tions to the *West*, to the *North*, and to the *South*,
in which the Medes and Persians beat down
all opposition and became great, we have a
successful expedition indeed, but unfortunately
towards the *East*, and an “ ill-advised expedi-
“ tion” to the *North-west*, which (though Thrace
was at this time conquered, and added to the
dominions of the Medes and Persians) does
not in its circumstances and character at all
agree with the symbolical description of the
prophet.

I now leave it to the reader, having both the

descriptions before him, to decide, whether the prophet describes the victories of Cyrus, or the conquest of “Thrace, Macedon, and the Ionian isles,” by “Darius, the son of Hystaspes*.”

As I only differ from Mr. Faber as to the date of the commencement of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat, and in what relates to the early history of the Persian empire, I proceed now to make one or two further observations, that apply exclusively to the interpretation of this prophecy given by Mr. Cuninghame, who has followed Sir Isaac and Bishop Newton, in considering the little horn of the He-goat as a symbol of the Roman Power in the East: but who, by endeavouring to shew that the vision

* Faber's Dissert. 3d edit. p. 262.

Mr. Faber states in his last editions (see Faber's Dissert. 4th edit. p. 290, 5th, p. 287) that he considers, that the “*successful pushings*” of the Ram, “did not commence” “until the year A. C. 508.” This idea, however, does not appear to agree with his own interpretation, for Thrace was conquered by Darius prior to this date; and I am not aware of any successes of the Persians in or subsequently to this year, excepting those of Darius eastward, in his expedition to India. It appears from a reference to Prideaux, that in the year A. C. 563, the Persians failed in an attack upon the Island of Naxos—in A. C. 502, the Ionians revolted from Darius—in A. C. 494, Mardonius failed in an expedition against the Greeks—in A. C. 491, the Persians were defeated in the battle of Marathon—and in A. C. 486, Darius died; we find therefore, subsequent to the year 503, nothing to

terminates in the year 1792, is involved in difficulties with respect to the commencement and termination of it, to which their interpretations are not liable.

Mr. Cuninghame's opinion as to the object of the prophecy causes him to differ from Mr. Faber in the interpretation of an important passage, where the Sanctuary or the Temple at Jerusalem is said to be cast down: Mr. Cuninghame understanding it literally, and supposing that in this prophecy the destruction of the Temple by the *Romans* is foretold; and Mr. Faber understanding the Temple to be the symbol of the Church of Christ, and that the prophecy refers to the desolation of the Eastern

answer to the *successful* pushings of the Ram. Mr. Cuninghame, consequently, whose hypothesis will not permit him to begin the vision of the Ram and the He-goat prior to the year A. C. 508 (the year now adopted by Mr. Faber, as the first year of the successful pushings of the Ram), advances nothing further on this subject, than that the troops of Darius "were *probably* occupied at this time in *consolidating* his" (former) "conquests in Thrace and Macedonia." (Cuninghame's Dissert. p. 278.) I must now therefore leave it to the reader to decide whether such an interpretation of the prophecy be admissible, and whether these *probable* events in the Northwest, whatever they were, which if they took place, it seems, were not of importance enough to be recorded in history, are a satisfactory substitute for the actual conquests of Cyrus, the founder of the Persian empire.

Church, by the introduction of the spiritual abomination of *Mahometanism*. Both these interpretations are plausible; and the only way of satisfactorily deciding which is the correct one, is by inquiring which meaning of the Temple, whether the *literal* or the *symbolical*, can be maintained consistently to the end.

Mr. Cuninghame, however, having first adopted the *literal meaning of the Temple* at Jerusalem, admits that latterly the desolation of the visible *Church of Christ* is spoken of, and supposes that where it is said to be cleansed at the expiration of the period of the vision, those judgments are foretold which commenced in the year 1792. But though Bishop Newton also has given his sanction to this transition from the literal to the symbolical meaning of the Temple, I cannot but consider that it is inadmissible, and that the interpretation of Mr. Faber, being the only one that can be consistently maintained to the end, is consequently proved to be the correct one; for, if we do not allow this, we lose the advantage peculiar to a continued and chronological prophecy, which is, that the interpretation of one part of it serves as a check upon the interpretation of the other.

That the period of the vision of the Ram and He-goat did not expire in the year 1792, as Mr.

Cuninghame supposes, will appear, if we consider that the cleansing of the Sanctuary mentioned in it must necessarily be understood as referring exclusively to the Eastern Church, the whole prophecy relating to the Eastern Roman empire. But we shall in vain inquire what change took place in the year 1792 in this Church; we well know that it was in no respect cleansed in that year from the abominations with which it is polluted; viz., those of the Mahometan superstition.

Mr. Cuninghame may justly say, that the Sanctuary of the *Western Church* ceased in this year to be trodden under foot *by the Papists*, and that the period of their *prosperity* then terminated; for so far facts and prophecy agree together: the period of their rioting in the Western Church then ended, and the Infidels broke in upon them, and became the instruments of their punishment. But we must observe, that the period of Infidelity had yet to succeed to that of Popery, and that prophecy is so far from representing the sanctuary of even the *Western Church*, as being *cleansed* at the end of the 1260 years, that we are expressly guarded against such an idea by that passage in Rev. chap. xv. ver. 8, where it is said, that
“no man was able to enter into the Temple till
“the seven plagues of the seven angels were

“fulfilled:” which is a prediction that there will be no increase to the spiritual Church of Christ (amongst the nine Roman-catholic kingdoms of the Western Roman empire), or in other words, that *the sanctuary of the Western Church will not be cleansed* till the period of the seven Vials, or the period of the thirty years’ destruction of the Roman empire is passed: and this general representation of the state of the Roman empire during this period is confirmed by the particular account which is given of the effusion of two of the Vials; for on the pouring out of the fourth Vial, it is said, that “men blasphemed the name of God, which had power over these plagues, and they *repented not* to give him glory;” and the same is said on the pouring out of the fifth Vial: and here also we find that facts and prophecy agree together; for if we look to France, to Spain, or to Rome, we shall be obliged to acknowledge that no signs of repentance have yet appeared.

I am obliged therefore, though agreeing with Mr. Cuninghame in his general view of the times in which we live, to dissent from his opinion that *the sanctuary is already cleansed*, these words implying no less than the restoration of the spiritual worship of God, where an idolatrous worship had before prevailed, and the

event therefore, I conceive, belonging to the period of the *progress* of the Gospel, and by no means to the *commencement* of the period of *Infidelity*.

Observations on the controversy between Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, relative to the interpretation of the Vision of the Ram and He-Goat.

Having freely made my objections to the interpretations given by Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, to the foregoing vision, I will now endeavour to reply to some arguments which Mr. Cuninghame has himself brought forward in the pages of the *Christian Observer* for the year 1808, to prove that the "little horn" cannot be considered as a symbol of the Mahometan Power, and I should be happy were I able to throw any light upon those points which that respectable writer proposes for discussion.

The first objection which Mr. Cuninghame brings forward is, that "this little horn does
" not come up *after the fall* of the four horns,
" which arose in the kingdom of Alexander;
" on the contrary, the little horns come up out
" of one of the four pre-existing horns; and
" the Angel who interprets the symbols de-
" clares explicitly, that the power which this

“ little horn prefigured shall stand up in the
 “ latter time (or *at the end*) of their king-
 “ doms.” Mr. Cuninghame consequently
 maintains that the little horn cannot be a sym-
 bol of Mahometanism, “ which arose more
 “ than six centuries *after the fall* of the last
 “ of the Macedonian kingdoms*.

This objection, I think, may be justly made
 to Mr. Faber’s interpretation of the vision, and
 it appears to me that he unsuccessfully endea-
 vours to answer it by saying, that where the
 little horn is said to stand up “ in the latter time
 “ of their kingdom,” it should be understood
 that the little horn shall stand up in the “*futurity*”
 of these four kingdoms; “ that is to say, in
 “ the course of the period *future* to them †.”

But then I must observe, that the difficulty
 in which Mr. Faber’s interpretation is involved
 arises entirely from his having interpreted the
 four Beasts as representing the four empires,
considered as extending to their several utmost
limits; from which interpretation it must in-
 deed necessarily follow, that when the *Mace-*
donian empire terminated by the conquest of
 the last of the four kingdoms, and the *Roman*
empire was established *in its place*, the four
 horns must be considered as being then com-

* Christian Observer, 1808, p. 209. † p. 417 and 690.

pletely destroyed ; and the Mahometan Power, which rose up about six centuries afterwards, could not (as Mr. Faber appears to admit) be said to rise up “ *in the latter time of their kingdom.*”

But if we adopt what I understand to be the correct interpretation of the symbols of the four Beasts, and of their horns, and consider them as referring to certain peculiar and distinct territories, we shall find that in this prophecy the Western empire is excluded ; and our attention is directed to the Eastern empire alone, as being the territory * on which the Mahometan Power would appear : and we are told that it would arise *in the course of a period* spoken of as being “ the latter time of these kingdoms,” that is, of the four kingdoms of the divided Macedonian empire. If we wish to know what period this “ latter time” refers to, it may be explained in the words of the prophecy of the four Beasts, as the time during which “ their lives” or existence “ should be prolonged after their domination was taken away,” that is, prior to their final (and as yet future) destruction, but subsequent to the year in which the Macedonian empire was conquered by the Romans. It is said too, that the Horn should rise when the trans-

* See description of the rise of the little Papal horn, page 182 of this work.

gressors were come to the full ; accordingly we find that it made its appearance in the beginning of the seventh century, when the Eastern Church was overrun with heresies. The time in which the Mahometan horn actually arose appears therefore most accurately described in the words of the prophecy ; and to prove that they do not so well suit the interpretation of Mr. Cuninghame, I would observe, that the *Roman Power* was established in the East by the *conquest* of the four kingdoms* of the divided Macedonian empire, and consequently *exactly at the termination* of the period of their dominion. But the text which says, that the little horn should stand up “ *in the latter time* “ of their kingdom,” evidently seems to imply that it should stand up and exist *during the course of a period* so denominated ; consequently we find that Mr. Cuninghame has felt himself obliged to alter our English translation, in order to enable him to give, as he supposes, the correct sense of the prophecy ; for as Mr. Faber, instead of reading “ the *latter time* of their “ kingdom, i. e., of the four horns (as the text

* “ The Romans became a horn in the East, rising out of “ the kingdom of Macedon, when it was *reduced into a Roman Province* in the year A. C. 148.” See Observations by Mr. Cuninghame in the Christian Observer for the year 1808, p. 213.

appears in the common version of our Bible), reads the "*futurity*" of their kingdom; so Mr. Cuninghame, in his explanation of the vision, reads "the *end*" of their kingdom.

Mr. Cuninghame objects, secondly, that the history of Mahometanism, "does not in any respect answer to the actions of the little horn;" for that at the rise of Mahometanism, the daily sacrifice was already taken away "by the gross corruptions prevailing in the Greek Church, and its superstitious veneration for the Virgin Mary and the Saints;" and that *Mahomet* therefore could not *himself* be said to take it away.

To this objection I would reply, that the daily sacrifice may be said, *by way of eminence*, to be *taken away*, when in the place of the true worship an object of religious and idolatrous veneration is *permanently established*, which Mahomet has now been for above twelve centuries amongst all the nations of the East. We shall consequently find that *the taking away the daily sacrifice*, and *the placing the abomination that maketh desolate*, are expressions which, where they occur, are always found together, as being necessarily connected with each other. So Mr. Faber reads, Dan. xi. 31, "that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, *by setting up*

“ the abomination that maketh desolate *.” That there is no force in Mr. Cuninghame’s objection to referring this prophecy to Mahometanism, because at the time of its rise the daily sacrifice of spiritual worship was *already* taken away, will appear further hereafter in considering the last chapters of Daniel, where we shall find that these terms are again used in speaking of the *re-establishment* of the Papacy by Buonaparte in the year 1801, from which it is evident that the terms may be used, as they are in this prophecy, although the Church had been previously in a totally corrupted state.

“ The gross corruptions prevailing in the “ Greek Church, and its superstitious veneration for the Virgin Mary,” at the time of the rise of Mahometanism, are well known ; and the reader will recollect that they are referred to in the words of this prophecy, when it is said, that *the transgressors were come to the full.*

Again, Mr. Cuninghame observes, that Mahometanism was “ *an opposing superstition* “ *WITHOUT the Church*, and cannot therefore “ be *an abomination of desolation IN the* “ *Church.*” And again, he objects, that although Mahometanism “ oppressed the per- “ sons of the Christians, so did the Heathen “ Emperors ; yet the Heathen persecutions,

* Christian Observer, 1808, p. 421.

“ grievous as they were, are never styled a
“ *taking away of the daily sacrifice, or placing*
“ *the abomination of desolation, or treading*
“ *the sanctuary under foot.*”

To these observations I reply, that I consider that the desolation spoken of in this and similar passages is not a *temporal* but a *spiritual* desolation, and that Mahomet was an Abomination of desolation, not as *persecuting* the Church like the *Heathen Emperors*, but as being the object of religious veneration and of prayer. We learn, however, from the passage where it is said that “ the place of his sanctuary was
“ *cast down,*” that the little Eastern horn was not like the little Western horn to be so established in the Church, as to be merely a corruption of that Church; but that, on the contrary, this power was to be founded upon its complete overthrow. It appears, therefore, that Mahometanism could not be more accurately described than it is by the words of the prophecy; for as Mahometanism and Popery are considered by all historians as the two great and similar Apostacies of the East and West, so we find in the prophetic writings that the same general terms are used in describing them; and at the same time *the peculiarities by which they differ from each other* are also marked by slight variations in the description.

If the Bishop of Rome set himself up as the object of religious veneration in the West, assuming to himself the character of the Vicar of Christ, so did Mahomet in the East, who proclaimed himself to be the Prophet of God. We are therefore supported in our interpretation, and the beauty and perfection of prophecy is manifested, when we shew that the expressions of *the taking away of the daily sacrifice*, and *the placing of the abomination that maketh desolate*, are alike used in speaking of both Mahometanism and Popery, and that the symbols of the two little horns, by which they are represented, resemble each other*.

* Mr. Faber observes, in his remarks upon Mr. Cunningham's interpretation, " that by applying the symbol of this
 " *little horn* to the ROMAN POWER IN THE EAST, the homogeneity of Daniel's prophecies is completely violated. If
 " the one *little horn* mean a *spiritual power*, the Papacy ;
 " the other *little horn* must likewise, to preserve homogeneity,
 " mean a *spiritual power* of some kind. This is further
 " evident, from the strong similarity between *the actions of the*
 " *two little horns*. If the actions of the one be ascribed to a
 " spiritual power, we are bound, I think, by every rule of consistent criticism, to ascribe the actions of the other to a spiritual power likewise. *The second little horn*, therefore,
 " must either be the same as the *first*, that is to say, they
 " must both be the Papacy, or it must be a spiritual power bearing some resemblance to the Papacy. But *the two*
 " *little horns* cannot both represent the Papacy, because they
 " are described as being horns of two entirely different beasts,

And here I would remark, though I purposely reserve the consideration of the prophecy of Esdras for a future occasion, that the idea of there being a similarity between Popery and Mahometanism is not peculiar either to historians or to the prophet Daniel: for it is found in a prophecy of Esdras relating to the present period, in which "*Asia*," a type of the Mahometan Apostacy, is addressed as an Apostate and Idolatrous Power, *similar to Babylon* (the well known type of the Papal Apostacy): "And thou, Asia, that art *partaker of the hope of Babylon*, and art the glory of her person: Woe be unto thee, thou wretch, because thou hast made thyself *like unto her*: and hast decked thy daughters in *whoredom**, that they might please and glory in thy lovers, which have always desired to commit whoredom with thee! Thou hast *followed Her that is hated in all her works and inventions*†."

Mr. Cuninghame again observes, that "it is

"Therefore *the second little horn* must represent some spiritual power within the limits of the Macedonian Empire, as the first represents a spiritual power within the limits of the Roman empire. To this description nothing that I am aware of will answer, except Mohammedism." Christian Observer, 1808, p. 420.

* See Rev. chap. xvii. † II. Ead. chap. xv. ver. 46—49.

“ said by the Angel in the 24th verse, that this
 “ little horn shall destroy the mighty and the
 “ holy people. If by the holy people, in this
 “ verse, the *Jews* be intended ;” he asks, “ has
 “ Mohammedism *peculiarly* destroyed them ?
 “ If the *Saints of the Christian Church* be
 “ meant ; then, has Mohammedism ever
 “ persecuted any professing Christians as
 “ *Saints?*”

In replying to this observation, I would previously observe, that by “ the *mighty* and the
 “ holy people,” I understand that nation to be
 designed, which is elsewhere spoken of in the
 prophecies, relating to the latter days, in terms
 similar to the foregoing, as a people “ *terrible*
 “ from their beginning hitherto* ; a nation
 “ meted out and trodden under foot, whose
 “ land the rivers” (or hostile armies†) “ have
 “ spoiled.” And I am the more disposed to
 understand the words as relating to the *Jews* as
 a nation, rather than to consider them as de-
 signed to describe symbolically *the Church of*
Christ ; because I find, that even in the sym-
 bolical prophecies, the Jewish nation is a sym-
 bol not of the Church of Christ, but of that
 nation which now stands in the situation for-

* Isaiah xviii. 7.

† See Article FLOOD, Symbolical Dictionary, page 91 of
 this work.

merly filled by the Jewish nation*, as the chosen people of God.

If then we consider, that the Mahometan Power over-ran Judea, and laid siege to and took Jerusalem, which events *are described in the vision itself*, by the little horn's waxing great "*towards the pleasant land*," and that it has now trodden the Holy City under foot for near twelve centuries, and that after Mahomet's "*coming to Medina*," as Dean Prideaux observes, "*he took that disgust against the Jews, that he became their bitter and most irreconcilable enemy ever after, and used them with greater cruelty in his wars than any other he had to deal with*," we can have no difficulty, I should think, in supposing, that in giving *the interpretation of the vision*, the Angel should describe in these terms the influence that Mahomet and Mahometanism had upon the affairs of the Jewish nation.

Mr. Cuninghame again objects, "*that it is said in verse 25, that the little horn shall at length stand up against the Prince of Princes*" (Messiah), "*but shall be broken without hand*." "*This standing up evidently*," he says,

* See Article ISRAELITISH NATION, Symbolical Dictionary, page 90.

“ means an open and most daring opposition;
 “ If, therefore, this little horn were Moham-
 “ medism, we might expect to hear something
 “ of its yet future opposition to the Messiah, in
 “ the book of Revelations. But it only appears
 “ there in the two first Woe-Trumpets, which
 “ are already past; and its power is evaporated,
 “ or dried up, under the sixth Vial, expiring
 “ without any apparent struggle.”

This objection has already been satisfactorily answered by Mr. Faber, to whose observations upon it I refer the reader*; and I shall only

* Mr. Faber remarks, as follows (see *Christian Observer*, 1808, p. 419): “ The *special* and *most avowed* standing up of
 “ the horn against Christ, so far from being future, is evi-
 “ dently past; because it is represented as taking place
 “ during the period of its waxing great toward the South, and
 “ toward the East, and toward the pleasant land. Of this
 “ Sir Isaac Newton was perfectly aware, when, supposing
 “ the little horn to mean the *Roman Power in the East*, he of
 “ course supposed its standing up against the Prince of the
 “ Host to mean the long since past crucifixion of our Lord by
 “ the Romans. But I am inclined to refer this action of the
 “ little horn, not merely to the victorious days of Mohammed-
 “ ism, but to its whole duration. By setting up a false Pro-
 “ phet in avowed opposition to Christ, it notoriously stands
 “ up against him; and having continued to do this through
 “ the whole of its allotted time, it will at length be broken
 “ without hand; it will expire without any material struggle;
 “ it will die a sort of natural death, as Mr. Cuninghame him-
 “ self observes.”

observe, in addition to what he has said, that as in the account given of the little Western horn, it is said to “*speak words against the Most High;*” and in the account given of the little Eastern horn, it is said to “*stand up against the Prince of Princes;* so the *destruction* of each is connected in both these Prophecies, with their thus standing up in opposition against God : for as the fourth Beast and its little horn is said to be destroyed on account “*of the words against the Most High, that the little horn spake,*” so in this prophecy the mention of the Mahometan little horn’s standing up against Christ, or its denying the divinity of our Saviour, is immediately connected with the mention of its destruction ; for it is said, “*It shall stand up against the Prince of Princes, but it shall be broken without a hand.*” And it is this connexion (accounted for as being that of the crime with its punishment) that has led Mr. Cuninghame to suppose, that this standing up of the little horn is only its *last* act.

Mr. Cuninghame further observes, that, “*if Mohammedism did take away the daily sacrifice, and did place the abomination of desolations, and did destroy the holy people, these certainly were the greatest evils which it brought upon mankind; unspeakably greater*

“ than any *temporal* sufferings which it was
 “ instrumental in inflicting. How then,” he
 asks, “ comes it, that, in describing the cala-
 “ mities which were brought upon the Eastern
 “ Christians by the two Mahometan Woe-
 “ Trumpets, in Revelations ix. the Holy Spirit
 “ does not say one syllable of *their taking away*
 “ *the daily sacrifice, or placing the abomination*
 “ *of desolations, or treading the Sanctuary*
 “ *under foot, or destroying the Saints?* How
 “ is it that no hint is given in any other part of
 “ the Apocalypse, of such effects being pro-
 “ duced by these Trumpets? If Mr. Faber’s
 “ interpretation be true, it is evident that the
 “ Holy Spirit has, in detailing the history of
 “ the two first Woes, left out the chief circum-
 “ stances of these Woes, and detailed those of
 “ less importance. But as it is impossible to
 “ conceive that the Spirit of God would do
 “ this, it follows that the interpretation which
 “ makes it necessary to suppose that he did,
 “ cannot be the true one.”

To this objection I reply, that these particu-
 lars relative to the *Church* are not mentioned
 under the Trumpets, because the *Sealed Book*
 of the Apocalypse, which contains the account
 of the Trumpets, does not, I apprehend, relate
 to the history of the *Church and Empire*, as

Mr. Cuninghame and Mr. Faber have supposed, but to the history of the *Empire alone*: and I have already shewn, in the preceding part of this work, p. 10—19, how carefully these subjects are kept separated and distinguished from each other. In answer to the question, how it is “that no hint is given in any other “part of the Apocalypse of such effects being “produced,” I reply, that *Mahometanism* is not particularly mentioned in the *Little Opened Book* of Saint John, although it does contain the history of the Church; because the *spiritual state* of the *Eastern Church* had, I conceive, *already* been described in Rev. xii. 4, a part of this book, where the “Dragon” is said to draw “with his tail the *third part* of the Stars of “heaven,” and to “cast them to the earth;” which representation describes the Bishops, Ministers, and Pastors, of the *Eastern Church*, as *totally apostatizing* from the truth: and because, after this event, the further *spiritual history* of the *Eastern Church* was not of importance enough to be mentioned distinctly and separately from the *temporal history* of the *Eastern Empire*.

I have thus endeavoured to reply to the several “reasons” given by Mr. Cuninghame, “for rejecting the application of Daniel’s

306 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

“ *symbolical little horn of the He-goat* to the
“ *spiritual empire of Mohammed;*” and I
should be truly happy if what has been said
should appear satisfactory.

CHAPTER V.

*Daniel's last Prophecy of " that which is noted
" in the Scripture of truth."*

*The history of individual kings of Persia, Greece,
Syria, Egypt, &c. The history of the Infidel
King.*

IT must be allowed by all, that there never was a period so replete with important events as that in which we live : and that there never was a person so powerful, and so evidently an instrument in the hands of God, as that extraordinary individual who has been the chief means of effecting those great changes which we have witnessed. If then, we duly consider that all important events, changes, and revolutions, are described in prophecy, and that those characters which appear most conspicuously in history, as Cyrus, Xerxes, Alexander, &c.

were spoken of in the sacred writings before they appeared upon the stage of the world ; the question with respect to the events of the present day, and to the individual who has been the chief means of producing them, will no longer be, whether or not they are mentioned in prophecy, but solely in what part of the Scriptures they are most particularly to be found. I shall now endeavour to satisfy this inquiry, as far as it regards the prophecies of Daniel, by examining the last that is recorded by him, which relates principally to the events of the present day ; and completes the history of the Church, by describing its third and last great enemy, the Infidel Power.

This Power, I shall proceed to shew, is Napoleon Buonaparte ; and although he may not yet have so clearly manifested himself in his character as the personal enemy of the Church of Christ, as it is probable that he will do hereafter, but has hitherto appeared rather as an instrument in the hands of God, of inflicting severe judgments upon the other enemies of the Church, the Papal and Mahometan Powers ; yet he must in some respects be considered as having even already exhibited his enmity to it, in as much as he has been the bitter enemy of that nation which is peculiarly favoured by God, and which alone of all the nations of the

divided Roman empire professes the pure religion of Christ; and is therefore in this prophecy of Daniel, typified by the Jewish nation, or "the Holy Covenant," in whose place it now stands. He hates it too for the same cause that other nations formerly hated the Jewish nation, because its maxims and principles are so contrary to his own; for it may be truly said of this favoured British nation, and especially at this day, "What nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for? and what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous?"

The two first enemies of the Church were long established powers, existing through many generations, and through a long course of years; the full duration of the Papacy being for 1290 years, and that of the Mahometan Power for about 1240. The last enemy of the Church, the Infidel Power, differs in this respect from the others, for its duration is confined to the time of the life of an individual; the prophecy therefore relating to it is written on a singular plan, corresponding with this difference.

In the prophecies already considered, the ruling kingdoms of the world are symbolically described as Wild Beasts, which represent the

several kingdoms *during the whole time of their existence*; and afterwards the Papal or Mahometan Power is introduced under the symbol of a Little Horn, which represents it likewise *throughout the whole period of its duration*. A few symbols, therefore, are sufficient to describe the subject of each of these prophecies; and these are supplied by the four principal Metals, and again by four Wild Beasts, differing from each other in appearance and character. But as the prophecy we are now about to consider contains in it the lives of various individuals, had the subjects of it been *symbolically* represented like those of the former prophecies, there must have been as many distinct symbols employed, as there are individuals mentioned. We therefore find that the form of a *narrative* is adopted; and the Angel Gabriel appears to Daniel, and *relates to him* “ *that which is noted in the scripture of truth.*”

We shall find in this prophecy, that the same principle prevails which has been pointed out in those which we have already examined; for, commencing from the period when the vision was seen, it carries us down by its narrative in the most direct manner possible to its final object.

The scene of the actions of the Infidel Power, who, as I have before said, is the principal sub-

ject of this prophecy, is laid both in the East and in the West ; for though his seat is in the Western Roman empire, some of the principal actions of his life take place in Egypt, in the territory of the divided Macedonian empire ; and the scene of that most important event of all, his destruction, is laid in the Holy Land, which formed part of the kingdom of Syria. The prophecy therefore appears to direct our attention to these countries, detailing with great minuteness the histories of the kings of Syria and Egypt, which occupy almost entirely the introductory part of it. The last king of Syria mentioned is Antiochus the Great, with whom the power of that kingdom (the principal one of the divided Macedonian empire) terminated ; for after his defeat by Scipio, the Roman General, this kingdom became tributary to the Romans, to whom the empire of the world may be considered as being at this time transferred : accordingly, the prophecy then carries us over to the Western Roman empire, mentioning, however, no other individual in it but Louis XVI., the king who immediately preceded the Infidel King, and who, we shall find, is so expressively designated in the twentieth verse of the eleventh chapter by a characteristic appellation ; and by the description of the extraordinary manner of his eventful death, that

(as Antiochus the Great is, on the other hand, so evidently pointed out, that all commentators agree in referring the preceding verses to him) the wide but necessary transition from the Eastern empire to the Western, is made as clear as possible, and more so perhaps than it would have been, had the prophecy contained the lives of other individuals of the Roman empire, whose histories might be less remarkable. After this the Infidel Power is himself introduced, who is the subject of all the remaining part of the chapter.

The prophecy consists of the 10th, 11th, and 12th chapters of Daniel, and is, as follows: chap. x. ver. 1: "In the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia, a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision."

Babylon was taken by Cyrus in the year A. C. 539; Cyaxares, uncle to Cyrus, called in Scripture, Darius the Mede, reigned between two and three years in Babylon, and Cyrus succeeded to the sole dominion of the empire in the year A. C. 536: it was in the third year of his reign, or in the year A. C. 534, that this vision was seen by Daniel. The time before the accomplishment of this prophecy is said to

be "long;" for though it begins with the reign of Cyrus, *the principal object* of it was not designed to appear till the very last times of the world. "The thing" is, notwithstanding, said to be "true," or certain; and how shall not that be true which a God of truth has revealed, whose infinite power controuls every event! This prophecy seems to be the one of which Daniel had the clearest understanding: the interpretations given to him of the visions of the Great Image, the four Beasts, and the Ram and the He-goat, may be considered perhaps as intended more for the use and assistance of others, than as designed for his own information; but of this vision it is said particularly that he "understood" it; and the reason why Daniel was favoured with a clearer insight into the meaning of this, than of those which preceded it, was perhaps because it related to his own people, and to their restoration in the last days; for, we may observe, that this is the concluding event of the prophecy; and it is said to Daniel by the angel Gabriel, "Now am I come to make thee understand *what shall befall thy people in the latter days.*" Ver. 2. "In those days, I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. 3. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all,

“ till three whole weeks were fulfilled.” If the reader will peruse the preceding chapter, which contains the prophecy of the seventy weeks, relating to the first advent of Christ, and the subsequent destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans, in consequence of their rejection of him as their Messiah, it will be found in the introductory part of it to be explanatory of some passages in this. The vision alluded to was seen four years previously to the one we are now considering, and we find it is there said, that Daniel had then set himself to seek the Lord by prayers and supplication, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes, confessing his own sins, and those of the Jewish nation ; and earnestly entreating that the anger of the Lord might be turned away from the city of Jerusalem, and from his holy mountain. He had, apparently in answer to these prayers, been enabled to obtain from Cyrus, only two years afterwards, that is, in the first year of his reign as sole head of the empire, a decree for the restoration of the Jews, and the rebuilding of the Temple. The same anxiety, doubtless for the welfare of his people, now newly restored to their own land, and labouring under many difficulties and much opposition in the accomplishment of their design, led Daniel again to seek, with earnest prayer, the prosperity of Je-

rusalem; and this anxiety it may be supposed that he felt, not only as being one of that nation, but also, and perhaps most strongly, as being one who believed in God, and delighted in the accomplishment of his will: and who knew that God had chosen this nation to himself, that he might manifest through them his attributes of infinite love, faithfulness, power, and truth; and that they might be themselves blessed, and become a blessing to the whole world.

Ver. 4. “ And in the four-and-twentieth day
“ of the first month, as I was by the side of the
“ great river, which is Hiddekel; 5. Then I
“ lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold
“ a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins
“ were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: 6. His
“ body also was like the beryl, and his face as
“ the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as
“ lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like
“ in colour to polished brass, and the voice of
“ his words like the voice of a multitude.

Ver. 7. “ And I, Daniel, alone, saw the vi-
“ sion: for the men that were with me saw not
“ the vision; but a great quaking fell upon
“ them, so that they fled to hide themselves.
“ 8. Therefore I was left alone, and saw this
“ great vision, and there remained no strength

“ in me: for my comeliness was turned in me
 “ into corruption; and I retained no strength;
 “ 9. Yet heard I the voice of his words: and
 “ when I heard the voice of his words, then
 “ was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my
 “ face toward the ground.”

This sublime description of the appearance of our Saviour, exactly corresponds with that found in the first chapter of the Revelations; and Saint John, like Daniel, is said to have been so struck with awe by the vision, that “ he
 “ fell at his feet as dead.”

Ver. 10. “ And, behold, an hand touched me,
 “ which set me upon my knees and upon the
 “ palms of my hands. 11. And he said unto
 “ me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, under-
 “ stand the words that I speak unto thee, and
 “ stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent.
 “ And when he had spoken this word unto me,
 “ I stood trembling.” On a reference to verse
 21 of the preceding chapter, it will appear al-
 most beyond a question, that it was the angel
 Gabriel who now touched Daniel to impart
 strength to him; this was the same ministering
 spirit, one of those appointed to minister unto
 the heirs of salvation, who had before, on two
 occasions, appeared unto Daniel, to explain to
 him the vision related in the eighth chapter;

and to communicate to him the prophecy of the seventy weeks, which will be found in the ninth chapter.

We find, from the instance here given of Gabriel, as well as from what we are told by Saint Paul, that the Angels are "all ministering spirits;" and that a part of their happiness is found in active service. Thus the Prophet Ezekiel, describing the blessed inhabitants of Heaven, represents them as existing in a state of continual preparation to execute the commissions of God; for he says, that the "living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning;" so zealous are they, if we may thus understand the description, in executing that which is committed to them. These examples should surely prove a strong excitement to activity amongst the members of the Church on earth; we know indeed that God will in his own time establish universal righteousness, and that eventually "the knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea:" but the appointed means is through the agency of his creatures; and surely the furthering the accomplishment of his will, which may constitute the chief happiness of Heaven, ought by all to be esteemed the greatest on earth.

The Angel addresses Daniel in the following

verse, ver. 12. "Then said he unto me, Fear
 " not, Daniel, for from the first day that thou
 " didst set thine heart to understand, and to
 " chasten thyself before thy God, thy words
 " were heard, and I am come for thy words."

This verse corresponds with verses 20—23 of the preceding chapter; from both passages we learn that Daniel had no sooner began his supplications, than the commandment went forth to Gabriel to carry him an answer, and to satisfy his solicitude by making him acquainted with the time of the first advent of our Saviour, and likewise with that of the future restoration of the Jews. In the instance here recorded of Daniel, we perceive a remarkable fulfilment of that gracious promise made to the Church in Isaiah lxxv. 24. "And it shall come to pass,
 " that before they call, I will answer; and
 " while they are yet speaking, I will hear."

Ver. 13. "But the Prince of the kingdom of
 " Persia withstood me one and twenty days:
 " but lo, Michael, one of the chief princes,
 " came to help me; and I remained there with
 " the kings of Persia. 14. Now I am come to
 " make thee understand what shall befall thy
 " people in the latter days: for yet the vision
 " is for many days." The passage before us, from the abstruseness of the subject of it, can only be explained by referring to others of a

similar kind in the Scriptures, and the first which can throw any light upon it occurs in the Book of Job, where we find Satan appearing before God, and accusing his servant Job : affirming that his works were not the fruits of faith working by love, but that they proceeded from mean self-interest ; and that if God were to deprive him of his temporal blessings, his hypocrisy would be made manifest, and he would curse him to his face. We here, for the first time, see Satan in Heaven, openly opposing the Church of Christ. In the Epistle of Saint Jude, Satan is again spoken of as having openly contended with Michael the Archangel, concerning the body of Moses ; wishing, as it is supposed, to make his sepulchre, the situation of which was mercifully concealed, an object of idolatrous veneration to the Israelites, whose great law-giver and leader he had so long been ; and who were but too prone to the commission of idolatry. We have here a second instance of Satan's exercising a permitted power in high places, far beyond what we could have conceived him to possess.

We find also in Revelations xii. 7—12, that Satan is there represented as in Heaven, endeavouring to effect the destruction and condemnation of the primitive martyrs, the first

fruits of the Christian Church ; and Christ himself (here also called Michael the Archangel) is represented as contending with the powers of darkness, in behalf of his Church ; nor could the accusations of Satan be refuted, or his malice repelled, otherwise than by the merits of the all-atoning blood of Christ ; and by the plea, as an evidence of their faith in him, that for his sake, the Saints “ loved not “ their lives unto the death.”

The above examples may serve to explain the passage now under consideration, where we find that Satan, the God of this world (described as the Prince of Persia, the then ruling kingdom of the world) is said to have opposed the merciful designs of God, with regard to his Church ; and for one and twenty days to have delayed the Angel Gabriel, who was commissioned to bring to Daniel an answer to his prayer. Such appears to be the necessary interpretation of the passage ; and it is here represented, that the power of the Great Head of the Church alone was sufficient to enable Gabriel to overcome the “ Prince of Persia ;” which affords a clear proof that it is Satan himself who is so called. The words of Gabriel, “ I remained there with the Kings of “ Persia ;” must be necessarily referred to the one and twenty days that he was so detained.

The subject of this passage is found but in few parts of Scripture: some useful lessons, however, may be drawn from it. If there be “war in Heaven,” and the victory is not there obtained without a contest, nor without the aid of the Great Head of the Church, who is ever ready to appear in its behalf; how can we, being weak flesh and blood, who have to war against principalities and powers, expect success without some exertion, and without a continual reference to the power of our Saviour. Such passages of Scripture must shew the error of those who “live carelessly;” and of the manner in which the members of the Church of Christ should pray in behalf of themselves and others, Daniel affords a most striking example. Ver. 15. “And when he had spoken
“such words unto me, I set my face towards
“the ground, and I became dumb. 16. And,
“behold, one like the similitude of the sons
“of men touched my lips: then I opened my
“mouth, and spake, and said unto him that
“stood before me, O my Lord, by the vision
“my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have
“retained no strength. 17. For how can the
“servant of this my Lord talk with this my
“Lord? for as for me, straightway there re-
“mained no strength in me, neither is there
“breath left in me. 18. Then there came

“ again and touched me one like the appear-
 “ ance of a man, and he strengthened me,
 “ 19. And said, O man, greatly beloved, fear
 “ not, peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be
 “ strong; and when he had spoken to me, I
 “ was strengthened, and said, Let my Lord
 “ speak; for thou hast strengthened me.”
 In the former vision it is said (chap. ix. 21)
 that while Daniel was praying, the man Ga-
 briel touched him; no doubt, therefore, but
 Gabriel is here also the subject of the text:
 who again touches him, and strengthens him.
 Who this exalted being is, we are not in-
 formed; but he appears to be that one of
 created beings who is most immediately
 employed under our Saviour, in directing
 the concerns of the Church, and in furthering
 the great work of salvation. We do not read
 in Scripture of any other angel so distin-
 guished by name; and his employments with
 regard to the Church are of the highest order;
 for we find him at one time overthrowing the
 kingdoms of this world, and at another time
 ushering in the kingdom of Christ. He in-
 forms Daniel, that he *alone* is so employed un-
 der Christ, who is there called, as in other
 places, “ Michael your Prince,” or the Great
 Head of the Church; for he says, in the verses
 immediately following these, “ There is none

“ that holdeth with me in these things but Michael your Prince.”

Ver. 20. “ Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the Prince of Persia : and when I am gone forth, lo, the Prince of Grecia shall come. 21. But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth : and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your Prince.”

Chap. xi. ver. 1. “ Also I, in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him.” Gabriel had 19 years before expounded to Daniel the vision in which was represented the overthrow of the Babylonian empire by the Medes and Persians, and which was typified by the pushing Southward of the Ram : that event had since taken place ; and the Angel here informs Daniel, that it was brought about through his instrumentality, for that he stood by Darius to strengthen him in that important work, the siege of Babylon, undertaken by the united forces of the Medes and Persians. For the reign of Darius being dated from the taking of this city, this event must be considered to be the one referred to by the Angel, when he says, in the verses above quoted, “ I, in the *first year* of Darius the Mede, even I, stood

“ to confirm and to strengthen him.” He informs him further, that it would be through his agency that the remainder of the events predicted in the vision of the Ram and He-goat would be brought about, and that he should hereafter go forth to fight against the King of Persia, or Darius (Codomannus), strengthening the Prince of Grecia, or Alexander, to overthrow him : and we probably read of the accomplishment of this prediction of the Angel in what is recorded respecting Alexander, “ that when he was yet at Dio, in Macedonia, “ and there deliberating with himself how he “ should carry on his war against the Persians, “ and was in much doubt about the undertaking,” he was encouraged in a dream “ “ to lay aside all thoughtfulness and diffidence about this matter, and pass boldly over “ into Asia,” for “ that God would be his “ guide in the expedition, and give him the “ Empire of the Persians*.” But Gabriel not only announced, and himself assisted to effect, the overthrow of the kingdoms of this world, but was also employed, as has been observed, in introducing the kingdom of Christ. He had already foretold to Daniel the first advent of our Saviour, in the prophecy of the seventy

* Prideaux, Vol. I. Book VII. Part I.

weeks; and we find him, as it is recorded by the Evangelists, actively employed at the time of its accomplishment; for it was the Angel Gabriel that announced to the Virgin Mother the future birth of our Saviour, as well as to Zacharias, the birth of his forerunner Saint John the Baptist. He now declares to Daniel that he will shew him that which is noted in the scripture of truth; or those things which were written amongst the decrees of God, and which would therefore assuredly be brought to pass.

Ver. 2. "And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia." The reign of Cyrus only continued for four years from the date of this vision. His son Cambyses succeeded to him, and reigned eight years. To him succeeded Smerdis the Magian, who feigned himself to be the brother of Cambyses, and was slain after a reign of only seven months, through a conspiracy of seven of the Persian nobles. Darius, the son of Hystaspes, was elected king from amongst the conspirators, and reigned for thirty-six years. His son Xerxes succeeded to him, and was therefore the fourth king of Persia from Cyrus, spoken

of in the prophecy as being *far richer than they all*; and of him, it has been observed, that “if you consider this king, you may “praise his *riches*, not the General; of which “there was so great abundance in his kingdom, that when rivers were dried up by “his army, yet his wealth remained unexhausted*.” It is recorded also of him, that he kept a great proportion of his subjects continually employed in digging in the gold and silver mines which he had in his territories; so that it was considered as a great relaxation of his usual severity in this respect, when “*he only reserved a fifth part of his people for the business of mining*†.”

Pythius, the Lydian, was, next to Xerxes, the most opulent prince of those times. He entertained Xerxes and his whole army with an incredible magnificence, and proffered him 2000 talents of silver (about 255,000*l.* sterling) and 3,993,000 pieces of gold, with the stamp of Darius (equal to about 1,700,000*l.* sterling), towards the defraying the charges of the war against the Grecians. But Xerxes was

* See Justin, as quoted in Bishop Newton's *Dissertations*, from whose work much of the interpretation of the first part of this prophecy will be selected.

† Rollin, Book VI. Chap. II. Sect. II.

so far from wanting any supplies, that he rewarded Pythius for his liberality, and presented him with 7000 pieces of gold to make up his number a complete round sum of 4,000,000.

And by his strength through his riches he stirred up all, both subjects and allies, against the realm of Grecia. Xerxes's expedition into Greece is

one of the most memorable adventures in ancient history. In raising his army, he searched

every place of the continent, and it was the greatest that ever was brought into the field :

for there was no nation that he led not out of Asia into Greece. Herodotus, who lived in

that age, Bishop Newton remarks, recounts with great exactness the various nations of

which Xerxes's army was composed ; and computes that the whole number of horse and foot,

by land and sea, out of Asia and out of Europe, soldiers and followers of the camp,

amounted to *five million two hundred and eighty-three thousand two hundred and twenty*

men. Nor was Xerxes content with stirring up the *East*, but he also “ entered into a con-

“ federacy with the Carthaginians, who were “ at that time the most potent people of the

“ *West* ; and made an agreement with them, “ that whilst the Persian forces should attack

“ Greece, the Carthaginians should fall upon “ the Grecian colonies that were settled in

J. C. 33, 226

“ Sicily and Italy, in order to hinder them
 “ from coming to the aid of the other Gre-
 “ cians. The Carthaginians made Amilcar
 “ their general, who did not content himself
 “ with raising as many troops as he could in
 “ Africa, but *with the money that Xerxes had*
 “ *sent him*, engaged a great number of sol-
 “ diers out of Spain, Gaul, and Italy, in his
 “ service; so that he collected an army of
 “ 300,000 men, and a proportionate number
 “ of ships, in order to execute the projects
 “ and stipulations of the league*.” *Thus*
Xerxes through his riches stirred up all against
the realm of Grecia. And after him no men-
 tion is made of any other king of Persia.
 For the Prophet, having enumerated four kings
 of the Persians after Cyrus, passes over eight
 unnoticed, whose reigns occupied a period of
 133 years, and proceeds immediately to the
 history of Alexander the Great, and of the
 Macedonian empire.

Ver. 3. “ And a mighty king shall stand up,
 “ that shall rule with great dominion, and do
 “ according to his will. 4. And when he shall
 “ stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and
 “ shall be divided towards the four winds of
 “ heaven; and not to his posterity, nor ac-

* Rollin. Book VI. Chap. II. Sec. II.

“ cording to his dominion which he ruled :
“ for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even
“ for others beside those.” That Alexander was
a *mighty king and conqueror* ; that he *ruled*
with great dominion, not only over Greece, and
the whole Persian empire, but likewise added
India to his conquests ; and that he *did accord-*
ing to his will, none daring to oppose him, are
facts too well known to require any particular
proof or illustration. But after a reign of
twelve years and eight months he died in Ba-
bylon : and then *his kingdom was broken* ; so
that in the space of about fifteen years his fa-
mily and posterity became extinct, chiefly by
the means of Cassander, one of his captains ;
and who was eventually one of his successors.
It was soon after Alexander’s death, that his
wife Statira, the daughter of Darius, was mur-
dered out of jealousy by his other wife Rox-
ana ; and her body was thrown into a well, and
earth cast upon it. His natural brother Ari-
dæus, who succeeded him on the throne by the
name of Philip, was, together with his wife
Euridice, killed by the command of Olympias,
the mother of Alexander, after he had borne
the title of king six years and some months :
and not long after Olympias herself was slain
in revenge by the soldiers of Cassander.—
Alexander Ægus, the son of Alexander, by

Roxana, as soon as he was born, was joined in the title of king with Philip Aridæus ; and when he had attained to the fourteenth year of his age, he and his mother were privately murdered in the castle of Amphipolis, by order of Cassander. In the second year after this, Hercules, the other son of Alexander by Barsine, the widow of Memnon, was also, with his mother, privately murdered by Polyspercon, induced thereto by the great offers made to him by Cassander. Such was the miserable end of Alexander's family : and then the governors made themselves kings each in his provinces, from which title they had abstained, as long as any just heir of Alexander was surviving. Thus was Alexander's kingdom *broken and divided not to his posterity, but was plucked up even for others beside those : and it was divided to the four winds of heaven ;* for four of his captains, as has been before noticed, prevailed over the rest, and Cassander reigned in Greece and the *West*, Lysimachus in Thrace and the *North*, Ptolemy in Egypt and the *South*, and Seleucus in Syria and the *East*.

Ver. 5. " And the king of the South shall
 " be strong, and one of his princes ; and he
 " shall be strong above him, and have domi-
 " nion : his dominion shall be a great domi-
 " nion." Though the kingdom of Alexander

was divided into four principal parts, yet only two of them have a place allotted in this prophecy, Egypt and Syria. These two were by far the greatest and most considerable: and these two at one time were in a manner the only remaining kingdoms of the four, the kingdom of Macedon having been conquered by Lysimachus, and annexed to Thrace; and Lysimachus again having been conquered by Seleucus, and the kingdoms of Macedon and Thrace annexed to Syria; and these two continued distinct kingdoms after the others were swallowed up by the power of the Romans. Bishop Newton observes, that there is manifestly either some redundance or some defect in the text, and conceives that it may perhaps be better read thus: *And the king of the South shall be strong, and one of his princes* (that is one of Alexander's princes) *and the king of the North shall be strong above him, and have dominion, his dominion shall be a great dominion.* The king of the South was indeed very strong, for Ptolemy had annexed Cyprus, Phœnicia, Caria, and many islands and cities and regions, to Egypt. He had likewise enlarged the bounds of his empire, and was now become so great, that he was in a condition not so much to fear as to be feared by his enemies. But still the *king of the North, or Seleucus Nicator,*

was strong above him; for having annexed, as we have seen, the kingdoms of Macedon and Thrace to the crown of Syria, he was become master of three parts out of four of Alexander's dominions. All historians agree in representing him not only as the longest liver of Alexander's successors, but likewise as *the conqueror* of the conquerors, as his name imports; he subdued many nations and built many cities; and after Alexander, possessed the largest part of Asia, for all was subject to him, from Phrygia up to the river Indus, and beyond it; and he is denominated expressly "the greatest king of Alexander."

Seleucus Nicator having reigned seven months after the death of Lysimachus over the kingdoms of Macedon, Thrace, and Syria, was basely murdered; and to him succeeded on the throne of Syria his son Antiochus Soter, and to Antiochus Soter succeeded his son Antiochus Theus.

At the same time Ptolemy Philadelphus reigned in Egypt after his father, the first Ptolemy, the son of Lagus.

There were frequent wars between the kings of Egypt and Syria. There were so particularly between Ptolemy Philadelphus, the second king of Egypt, and Antiochus Theus, the third king of Syria.

Ver. 6. “ And in the end of years they shall
 “ join themselves together; for the king’s
 “ daughter of the South shall come to the king
 of the North to make an agreement: but she
 “ shall not retain the power of the arm; nei-
 “ ther shall he stand, nor his arm; but she
 “ shall be given up, and they that brought her,
 “ and he that begat her” (or as it is in the mar-
 gin, “ him whom she brought forth”), “ and he
 “ that strengthened her in these times.” In
 the end of years (or in the year A. C. 249), that
 is, about 30 years from the death of Seleucus
 Nicator the king of the North, mentioned in
 the foregoing verse, Antiochus Theus the then
 king of Syria, and Ptolemy Philadelphus the
 then king of Egypt, who had carried on war
 against each other for several years, *joined them-*
selves, or associated themselves *together*; for
 they agreed to make peace, upon condition that
 Antiochus Theus, *the king of the North*, should
 put away his former wife Laodice and her two
 sons, and should marry Berenice, *the daughter*
of Ptolemy Philadelphus, the king of the South.
 And accordingly Ptolemy Philadelphus brought
 his daughter to Antiochus Theus, and with her
 an immense treasure, so that he received the
 appellation of the Dowry-giver.

But *she did not retain the power of the arm*,
 that is, her interest and power with Antiochus,

for after some time, he brought back his former wife Laodice to court again. *But neither did he Antiochus stand, nor his arm;* for Laodice fearing the fickle temper of her husband, lest he should recall Berenice, caused him to be poisoned; and *she (Berenice) was also given up, and they that brought her, and him whom she brought forth, and he that strengthened her;* for Laodice, not content with poisoning her husband, caused also Berenice to be murdered. Many of her Egyptian women too, and her attendants who came over with her into Syria, in endeavouring to defend her, were slain with her: and her son was also murdered by order of Laodice. He that strengthened her may be supposed to be her husband Antiochus, who would doubtless have supported her against these designs of Laodice, but that he had himself been previously cut off. Others conceive that her father Ptolemy is here meant, who was a very powerful prince, and had an extreme fondness for her, but had died a short time before in Egypt, at the age of 63 years: for it was not till she had thus lost *his powerful support*, that Antiochus ventured to remove her from his bed, and to recall Laodice*.

Ver. 7. “ But out of a branch of her roots

“ shall one stand up in his estate, which shall
 “ come with an army, and shall enter into the
 “ fortress of the king of the North, and shall
 “ deal against them, and shall prevail : 8. And
 “ shall also carry captive into Egypt their gods,
 “ with their princes, and with their precious
 “ vessels of silver and gold ; and he shall con-
 “ tinue more years than the king of the North.
 “ 9. So the king of the South shall come into
 “ his kingdom, and shall return into his own
 “ land.” The crime of Laodice did not long
 remain unpunished and unrevenged ; for Pto-
 lemy Euergetes, who was brother to Berenice,
 or *sprang out of the same root with her*, no sooner
stood up in his estate, or succeeded his father
 Ptolemy Philadelphus in the kingdom of Egypt,
 than he entered into the provinces of the king
 of the North, that is, of Seleucus Callinicus, son
 of Loadice, who now with his mother reigned in
 Syria. And he *dealt against them and prevailed*,
 so far that he took Syria, Cilicia, and the coun-
 try beyond the Euphrates, with the city of Baby-
 lon, and overran almost all Asia. *And he entered*
into the fortress of the king of the North, or took
 the city of Seleucia, which was kept for some
 years afterwards by the garrisons of the kings of
 Egypt ; but when he had heard that a sedition
 was raised in Egypt, he plundered the kingdom
 of Seleucus, and took *forty thousand talents of*

silver and precious vessels ; and images of the gods, two thousand and five hundred ; among which were also those which Cambyses, after he had taken Egypt, had carried into Persia. And for thus restoring their gods after many years, the Egyptians, who were a nation much addicted to idolatry, complimented him with the title of Euergetes, or the benefactor. So the king of the South came to the kingdom of the North, and then returned into his own land. He likewise continued more years than the king of the North ; for Seleucus Callinicus died in exile, of a fall from his horse, and Ptolemy Euergetes survived him about four or five years.

Ver. 10. “ But his sons shall be stirred up, “ and shall assemble a multitude of great “ forces ; and one shall certainly come, and “ overflow, and pass through : then shall he “ return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress.” The *sons* of the king of the North, or of Seleucus Callinicus, were Seleucus and Antiochus ; the elder of whom, Seleucus, succeeded his father in the throne, and to distinguish him from others of the same name, was denominated *Ceraunus* or *the thunderer*. Seleucus Ceraunus was indeed *stirred up, and assembled a multitude of great forces* : but being destitute of money, and unable to keep his army

in obedience, he was poisoned by two of his generals, while on an expedition to Asia Minor, after an inglorious reign of two or three years. Upon his decease his brother Antiochus Magnus was proclaimed king, who was more deserving of the title of *Great*, than Seleucus was of that of *the Thunderer*. The Prophet's expression is very remarkable, that *his sons should be stirred up and assemble a multitude of great forces*; but then the number is changed, and only *one should certainly come, and overflow, and pass through*. Accordingly Antiochus came with a great army and retook Selucia, and, by the means of Theodotus the Ætolian, recovered Syria, making himself master of some places by treaty, and of others by force of arms. Then, after the interval of a short truce, Antiochus returned and overcame in battle Nicolaus the Egyptian general, and had thoughts of invading Egypt itself.

Ver. 11. “ And the king of the South shall be
“ moved with choler, and shall come forth
“ and fight with him, even with the king of the
“ North, and he shall set forth a great multi-
“ tude, but the multitude shall be given into
“ his hand.” The king of Egypt at that time was Ptolemy Philopater, who was advanced to the crown upon the death of his father Euergetes, not long after Antiochus the Great suc-

ceeded his brother in the throne of Syria. This Ptolemy was a most luxurious and vicious prince, but was roused at length by the nearer approach of danger; and was no doubt *moved with choler* for the losses which he had sustained, and for the revolt of Theodotus and others: And he *came forth*, or marched out of Egypt, with a numerous army to oppose the enemy, and encamped not far from Raphia, which was the nearest town to Egypt from Rhinocorura. And there he *fought with him, even with the king of the North*; for thither likewise came Antiochus with his army, and a memorable battle was fought by the two kings. *And the king of the North set forth a great multitude.* Polybius, as Bishop Newton observes, hath recited the various nations of which Antiochus's army was composed, and altogether it amounted to 62,000 foot, 6000 horse, and 102 elephants. *But yet the multitude was given into the hand of the king of the South*; for Ptolemy obtained a complete victory: and of Antiochus's army there were slain not much fewer than 10,000 foot, more than 300 horse, and above 4000 men were taken prisoners; whereas of Ptolemy's there were killed only 1500 foot and 700 horse. Upon this defeat Raphia and the neighbouring towns contended who should be most forward to submit to the conqueror; and

Antiochus was forced to retreat with his shattered army to Antioch, and from thence sent ambassadors to solicit a peace.

Ver. 12. “ And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up ; and he shall cast down many ten thousands : but he shall not be strengthened.” Ptolemy Philopater was more fortunate in gaining a victory, than prudent in knowing how to make a proper advantage of it : if he had pursued the blow that he had given, it is reasonably presumed that he might have deprived Antiochus, of his kingdom ; but after a few menaces and complaints he granted peace to Antiochus, that he might be no more interrupted in the gratification of his appetites and passions. He had before murdered his father, and his mother, and his brother ; and now he killed his wife, who was also his sister, and gave himself up entirely to the management of Agathoclea his concubine, and her brother Agathocles, and mother *Ænanthe*. And so forgetful was he of all the greatness of his name and majesty, that he consumed his days in feasting, and his nights in debaucheries ; and became not only the spectator, but the master and leader, of all wickedness. After the retreat of Antiochus, Ptolemy visited the cities of *Cœle-Syria* and *Palestine*, which had submitted to him : and

among others in his progress he came to Jerusalem. He there offered sacrifices, and was desirous of entering into the Holy of Holies, contrary to the custom and religion of the place. The writer of the third book of Maccabees says, that being *greatly lifted up by pride and confidence*, his curiosity was only restrained by the divine interposition; he being, as it is there reported, struck with such a sudden terror as he was preparing to force his way from the second court into the temple itself, that he was carried off half dead. However it were, he left the city highly exasperated against the Jewish nation, and threatening them with his revenge: accordingly, after his return to Alexandria, he began a cruel persecution upon the Jewish inhabitants of that city, who had resided there from the time of Alexander, and enjoyed the privileges of the most favoured citizens. *And he cast down many ten thousands*; for it appears that at this time forty thousand Jews were slain by him, or sixty thousand, as they are otherwise reckoned; so that notwithstanding his late successes, he was not *strengthened*; for the loss of so many Jews, and the rebellion of the Egyptians, added to the mal-administration of the state, must certainly have very much weakened the kingdom.

Ver. 13. "For the king of the North shall

“ return, and shall set forth a multitude greater
“ than the former, and shall certainly come,
“ after certain years with a great army, and
“ with much riches.” Peace continued between the two crowns of Syria and Egypt *for certain years* ; namely, for about fourteen. In that time Ptolemy Philopater died of intemperance and debauchery, and was succeeded by his son Ptolemy Epiphanes, a child of four or five years old. Antiochus having at that time taken and slain Achæus, who had revolted against him in Asia Minor, and having also reduced and settled the eastern parts of his empire in their obedience, was at leisure to prosecute any enterprise, and could not let slip so favourable an opportunity of extending his dominions. He had acquired great riches, and collected many forces in his eastern expedition ; so that he was enabled to set forth a *multitude greater than the former* ; and he doubted not to have an easy victory over the infant king of Egypt. From the king of Bactria and from the king of India he had received so many elephants as made up his number 150, besides provisions and riches ; he had gathered also an incredible army out of the countries beyond Babylon ; and, contrary to the league, he marched with his army, Ptolemy Philopater being dead, against his son, who was then only about four or five years old.

Ver. 14. “ And in those times there shall
 “ many stand up against the king of the South :
 “ also the robbers of thy people shall exalt
 “ themselves to establish the vision : but they
 “ shall fall.” Antiochus was not the only one
that stood up against young Ptolemy the king
of the South ; many others confederated with
 him ; for Agathocles, the favourite of the former
 king, who was in possession of the young king’s
 person, was so dissolute and proud in the exer-
 cise of his power, that the provinces which
 before were subject to Egypt, rebelled, and
 Egypt itself was disturbed by seditions. Philip
 too, the king of Macedon, entered into a league
 with Antiochus to divide Ptolemy’s dominions
 between them, and each to take the parts which
 lay nearest and most convenient to them. *To*
these also were added the revolters from amongst
the Jews ; for they were at that time broken
 into factions, part adhering to the king of
 Egypt, and part to the king of Syria ; but the
 majority were for breaking away from their
 allegiance to Ptolemy. *But they fell* ; for
 Scopas came with a powerful army from
 Ptolemy, and Antiochus being engaged in
 other parts, he soon reduced the cities of Cœle-
 Syria and Palestine to their former obedience ;
 subdued the Jews, and placed a garrison in the
 castle of Jerusalem.

Ver. 15. “ So the king of the North shall

“ come, and cast up a mount, and take the
“ most fenced cities” (or “ the city of muni-
“ tions”): “ and the arms of the South shall
“ not withstand, neither his chosen people,
“ neither shall there be any strength to with-
“ stand. 16. But he that cometh against him
“ shall do according to his own will, and none
“ shall stand before him: and he shall stand in
“ the glorious land, which by his hand shall be
“ consumed” (or otherwise “ consummated,”
or “ perfected”). It was in the absence of An-
tiochus that Scopas, commanding the Egyptian
forces, obtained his successes in Cœle-Syria
and Palestine: but the arrival of Antiochus
soon turned the scale, and changed the whole
face of affairs. Scopas was sent to oppose him;
and Antiochus fought with him near the sources
of the river Jordan, destroyed a great part of
his army, and pursued him to Sidon, where he
shut him up with 10,000 men, and closely be-
sieged him. Three famous generals were sent
from Egypt to raise the siege; but they could
not succeed; and at length Scopas was forced
by famine to surrender, upon the hard condi-
tions of having life only granted to him and
his men; they were obliged to lay down their
arms, and were sent away stripped and naked.
Afterwards Antiochus (having thus *cast up a*
mount and taken the city of munitions, for Sidon

was an exceeding strong city in its situation and fortifications) soon rendered himself master of all Cœle-Syria and Palestine; *for the arms of the South could not withstand him, neither had the chosen troops of Egypt any strength to withstand.* Among others who submitted to Antiochus were the Jews, who went forth in solemn procession to meet him, received him splendidly into their city, supplied him with plenty of provisions for all his army and elephants, and assisted him in besieging the garrison which Scopas had left in the citadel. *Thus he stood in the glorious land, which was perfected, or prospered and flourished in his hand.* For Antiochus, to reward and encourage the Jews in their fidelity and obedience to him, gave order that their city should be repaired, and that the dispersed Jews should return and inhabit it; that they should be supplied with cattle and other provisions for sacrifices; that they should be furnished with timber and other materials for finishing and adorning the temple; that they should live all according to the laws of their country; that the priests and elders, the scribes and Levites, should be exempted from the capitation and other taxes; that those who then inhabited the city, or should return to it within a limited time, should be free from all tribute for three years, and the

third part of their tribute should be remitted to them for ever after; and also that as many as had been taken and forced into servitude should be released, and their substance and goods be restored to them.

Ver. 17. “ He shall also set his face to enter
 “ with the strength of his whole kingdom, and
 “ upright ones with him” (or rather “ he shall
 “ set his face to enter by force the whole king-
 “ dom, and shall make agreement with him”);
 “ thus shall he do. And he shall give him the
 “ daughter of women, corrupting her: but she
 “ shall not stand on his side, neither be for
 “ him.” Antiochus, having thus brought all
 Cœle-Syria and Palestine in subjection to him,
 projected the doing the same in lesser Asia;
 thus “ *setting his face to enter by force the whole*
 “ *kingdom;*” “ for his grand aim was to re-
 “ store the Syrian empire to the *full extent* in
 “ which it had been held by any of his an-
 “ cestors, especially by Seleucus Nicator the
 “ founder of it. But to quiet the Egyptians,
 “ that they might not renew the war in Pales-
 “ tine and Cœle-Syria in his absence, he pro-
 “ posed a marriage between Cleopatra his
 “ daughter and King Ptolemy, to take place
 “ as soon as they should be of age; promis-
 “ ing the restoration of the provinces of
 “ Cœle-Syria and Palestine on the day of the

“ nuptials, by way of dower with the young
 “ Princess ; which offer being accepted by the
 “ Egyptians, they no more renewed the war
 “ upon him, but left him wholly free to pur-
 “ sue his other designs*.” Five years after-
 wards he conducted her himself to Raphia,
 where they were married. She was one of the
 most eminent and beautiful of women ; and so
 she appears to be called in the prophecy, by
 way of eminence, the *daughter of women*. But
 all this Antiochus transacted with a fraudulent
 intention, *that he might corrupt her*, and in-
 duce her to betray her husband’s interests to
 her father. But his designs did not take effect ;
for she did not stand on his side, neither was
she for him ; for Cleopatra was afterwards
 found to affect the cause of her husband more
 than that of her father ; in so much, that she
 joined with her husband in an embassy to the
 Romans, to congratulate them upon their vic-
 tories over her father, and to exhort them, after
 they had expelled him out of Greece, to pro-
 secute the war in Asia ; assuring them at the
 same time that the king and queen of Egypt
 would readily obey the commands of the
 Senate.

Ver. 18. “ After this shall he turn his face

* Prideaux, Part II. Book II. Anno A. C. 198,

“ unto the Isles, and shall take many : but a
“ prince for his own behalf shall cause the re-
“ proach offered by him to cease ; without his
“ own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon
“ him.”

Before I enter upon the consideration of this verse, I must remark, that the former verse, which we have already examined, refers to events of a later date than those afterwards mentioned in verse 18 ; and we may suppose it to be for this reason, that, in a history so concise as this, simplicity and clearness could not be obtained, were frequent transitions made from one subject to another ; so that it becomes necessary, that when any episodical subject is introduced, it should be continued and brought to a conclusion before the main thread of the history is resumed. It is wonderful that so much can be so briefly and clearly described, as is related in the words of this prophecy ; but were the episodical subjects to be broken and divided, in order that each part of them should be introduced in its exact chronological place, it would be impossible that the story, being rendered thus complex, should be narrated with the same simplicity and boldness of description. This previous remark is necessary, lest the reader, having been already carried down, in verse 17, to a late period in the history of

Cleopatra, should now be surprised at being carried back, in verse 18, to the year A. C. 197, only the year after Cleopatra was betrothed to Ptolemy, and *four years before* her marriage took place.

But to proceed to the consideration of the verse before us. In the spring of the year A. C. 197, Antiochus, having made peace with the Egyptians, undertook with a great fleet to carry on his designs upon lesser Asia; and sailing along the coasts of Cilicia, Pamphylia, Lycia, and Caria, took a great many of the maritime cities of those provinces, and the islands adjoining; and at length coming round to Ephesus, seized that city, and there set up for his winter-quarters, spending the remainder of the year in projecting and concerting those measures which might be most proper for the accomplishing of the designs that brought him into those parts. But Smyrna, Lampsacus, and other Greek cities in Asia, which then enjoyed their liberties, finding his scheme was to reduce them all to be in the same subjection to him, as they had formerly been to his ancestors, resolved to stand out against him, and sent to the Romans for their protection, which they readily undertook in their behalf. For they being resolved to put a stop to Antiochus's further progress westward,

as fearing to what the power of so great a king might grow, should he establish himself in those parts of Asia according to his designs, gladly laid hold of this opportunity to oppose themselves against him, and therefore forthwith sent ambassadors to him, to require of him that he should restore to King Ptolemy all the cities of the lesser Asia that he had taken from him; that he should quit those that had been King Philip's; and that he should permit all the Grecian cities in those parts to enjoy their liberties, and not pass into Europe; and to declare, that in case they had not satisfaction in all these particulars they would make war against him*. *After therefore having turned his face unto the Isles, and taken many of them, a prince, or rather a leader or general, meaning a Roman general, caused his reproach to cease; for this interference of the Romans afterwards gave rise to a war, which ended in the complete overthrow of Antiochus, by Scipio, the Roman general, in a battle fought in Asia, near the city of Magnesia, at the foot of Mount Sypylus, in the year A. C. 190; in which Antiochus lost 50,000 foot and 4,000 horse, 1,400 also being taken prisoners, and he himself escaped with difficulty. Upon this defeat he was necessi-*

* Prideaux, Part II. Book II. Anno. A. C. 197.

tated to sue for peace, and was obliged to submit to very dishonourable conditions ; not to set foot in Europe, and to quit all Asia on this side of Mount Taurus, to defray the whole charges of the war, &c., and to give twenty hostages for the performance of these articles ; one of whom was his youngest son Antiochus, afterwards called Epiphanes. By these means, he and his successors became tributary to the Romans ; so truly and effectually did they not only *cause the reproach offered by him to cease* ; but retaliating upon him, by depriving him of part of his dominions, and imposing a disgraceful tribute upon him and his successors, *they caused it to return upon himself.*

Ver. 19. “ Then he shall turn his face toward “ *the fort of his own land* : but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.” Antiochus did not long survive this disgrace ; and the latter end of his life and reign was as mean as the former part had been glorious. After the battle fought near the city of Magnesia, he fled away to Sardis, and from thence to Apamea, and the next day he came into Syria, to Antioch, “ *the fort of his own land.*” It was thence that he sent ambassadors to sue for peace ; and within a few days after peace was granted, he sent part of the money demanded, and the hostages, to the Roman consul at Ephesus. He is

reported indeed to have borne his loss with great equanimity and temper, and said, he was much obliged to the Romans for easing him from a great deal of care and trouble, and for confining him within the bounds of a moderate empire. But whatever he might pretend, he lived in distress and poverty for a great king, being under the greatest difficulties how to raise the money which he had stipulated to pay to the Romans: and his necessity or his avarice prompted him at last to commit sacrilege. He marched into the eastern provinces, to collect there the arrears of tribute, and amass what treasure he could: and attempting to plunder the rich temple of Jupiter Belus in Elymas, he was assaulted by the inhabitants of the country, was defeated, and himself and all his attendants were slain. Or, as otherwise reported, he was slain by some of his companions, whom in his liquor he had beaten at a banquet. However it was, his death was inglorious, he *stumbled and fell, and was no more found.*

We are now, in the course of the prophecy, arrived at that time when the Romans became the ruling power of the world. We find that the whole period hitherto described consists of only 347 years, reaching from A. C. 534, when the vision was seen, to A. C. 187, when Antiochus died; in which number of years is also

included an interval unnoticed of 134 years, being the period from the end of the reign of Xerxes, to the beginning of the reign of Alexander the Great: so that in fact the history of little more than 200 years has yet been given.

It is evident, therefore, that as a period of above 2300 years intervenes, between the commencement of the prophecy, and the appearance of the Infidel Power, we must expect to find that some other very considerable portion of time is unnoticed; for were the prophetic history of the remaining years to be carried on in one unbroken narrative, this prophecy would be made to exceed in length, beyond all proportion, those which relate to Popery and Mahometanism, and every other scriptural prophecy.

There is another reason, on account of which we might conclude that it would not be so continued; for a prophecy of this kind, which gives the lives of individuals of successive generations, in the form of narrative, is *necessarily* so minute and clear, that the interpretation of one part being discovered by its fulfilment, it would follow, were the narrative uninterrupted, that the particulars of the lives of all the other individuals subsequently spoken of in the prophecy, would be so clearly revealed, that the success or failure of every thing they under-

took would be foreseen long before the event. This, however, could not be considered as suitable with what we find to be the real state of the world; where all the creatures of God, even his enemies, *unknowingly* contribute to bring about his designs; and it would also be inconsistent with that declaration of the Angel, that this prophecy, in its main import at least, *should be sealed to the time of the end.*

We have found, however, that the history *has hitherto been continued in one unbroken narrative*, with the single exception, that in *passing from the Persian to the Grecian Empire*, there is an omission of eight kings, and of a period of 134 years. We are now arrived at that point of time when we must necessarily *pass from the Grecian to the Roman empire*; here then, and here only, arguing from analogy, another omission must be expected to appear; and so accordingly we find it; for the prophecy passing over all the early part of the history of the Roman empire, carries us at once to that most important period, which is more particularly treated of than any other in all the scriptural prophecies; and to the history of that king, who is individually described by Esdras and Saint John, as well as by Daniel: for Louis XVI., king of France, is the STAR which it is foretold by Esdras should be smitten down to the earth

by his own people (who were also to humble other kings, overthrow the Papal Babylon, and, by the tyrannical exercise of their power, to commence the destruction of the Roman empire *.) And he is also, as has already been shewn, described by Saint John under the symbol of the SUN, that at the end of the 1260 years was suddenly to become "black as sackcloth of hair†," or to be deprived of all splendour, power, influence, and regal dignity. The next verse of the eleventh chapter of Daniel, now under consideration, which describes this individual, is as follows :

Ver. 20. "Then shall stand up in his estate
 "a Raiser of Taxes, in the glory of the king-
 "dom ; but within few days he shall be de-
 "stroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle." As
 in the symbolical prophecies the symbols are
 peculiarly appropriate to the objects they repre-
 sent ; so in this historical narrative we shall
 find a similar perfection in the terms applied to
 individuals, and in the manner in which they
 are designated. The principal event in the
 reign of Louis XVI. was the French Revolution,
 and it is this circumstance that gives its
 importance and propriety to the term here
 applied to him, "a Raiser of Taxes;" for it was

* II. Esdras, xv. 35—45 ; xi. 32.

† Rev, vi. 12.

the embarrassment of the French finances, and the strong opposition made by the Parliament to the edicts of the king for raising certain taxes, that was the immediate cause of all his misfortunes, obliging him first to call together the Assembly of the Notables, and then to have recourse to the States General, who resolved themselves into that National Assembly, that on the 10th August, 1792, deposed him from his throne.

On the 21st January, 1793, he was, after a mock trial, deprived of life in the eighteenth year of his reign. Thus having stood up in the splendour of his estate, and in the glory of his kingdom, or, to use the words of Burke, during "the high and palmy state of the French monarchy;" he was within few years destroyed with every circumstance of degradation and of cruelty. He did not fall honourably, at the head of his armies and in the heat of contest; as other kings who have met with a violent death have usually done, for he was cut off "neither in anger nor in battle," being deliberately and basely murdered in cold blood by his own deluded and traitrous subjects.

Ver. 21. "And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by

“ flatteries.” The person who succeeds in his estate, or, as the marginal reading allows us to understand it, succeeds in his place, is particularly designated by the term *vile*; referring to the lowness of his extraction; for it is in this sense we must understand the epithet: for though it would doubtless be equally applicable to the individual now introduced into the prophecy, if understood as signifying a morally worthless character, it is the vileness of his origin which forms a distinctive peculiarity in the history of the Emperor Napoleon. That this epithet refers to his origin is also pointed out by the words with which it is immediately connected; “ *to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom; but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries:*” thus the father of Napoleon being only a lawyer in the island of Corsica, he had not the least natural claim to sovereign authority. He first assumed civil power in the year 1799, after his return from Egypt; when we read, that “ the wiles of the Ex-priest” (Abbe Sieyes), “ and the arts of the Ex-chief of the army of Egypt, combined a plan” for the overthrow of the Directory, and for their own establishment in power; “ in which each engaged from individual ambition, and each so well concealed his own design, that they

“duped one another*.” This was the first exercise of his art towards obtaining the kingdom. In 1802 he succeeded in getting his appointment as First Consul extended for a further term of ten years, and shortly afterwards he obtained this office for his life, with the liberty of appointing a successor: this point being carried, under the sanction of a pretended general popular election, in which the votes were inscribed in books, kept by the agents of government; and in which the number of the suffrages for and against the measure were declared, without any possibility of appeal or scrutiny. In 1804 he further assumed the title of Emperor of the French, and the dignity was declared hereditary in his family. *Thus did he come in peaceably, and by the exercise of the most consummate art gradually obtain the full honour of the kingdom.*

Ver. 22. “And with the arms of a flood shall
“they be overflown from before him, and shall
“be broken; yea, also the Prince of the Cove-
“nant. 23. And after the league made with
“him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall
“come up, and shall become strong with a
“small people. 24. He shall enter peaceably
“even upon the fattest places of the province;

* Van Ess's Life of Buonaparte.

“ and he shall do that which his fathers have
 “ not done, nor his fathers’ fathers; he shall
 “ scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and
 “ riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices
 “ against the strong holds, even for a time.

“ 25. And he shall stir up his power and his
 “ courage against the King of the South with a
 “ great army; and the King of the South shall
 “ be stirred up to battle with a very great and
 “ mighty army; but he shall not stand: for
 “ they shall forecast devices against him.—

“ 26. Yea, they that feed of the portion of his
 “ meat shall destroy him, and his army shall
 “ overflow: and many shall fall down slain.

“ 27. And both these king’s hearts shall be to
 “ do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one
 “ table, but it shall not prosper: for yet the
 “ end shall be at the time appointed. 28. Then
 “ shall he return into his land with great
 “ riches; and his heart shall be against the
 “ holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and
 “ return to his own land.” I have already

been led to speak of a period so late as the year 1804, because the account of the vileness of the birth of Buonaparte was necessarily connected in the prophecy with the mention of his subsequent greatness. We have now to consider the early part of his career, and those events which

first brought him fully into public notice ; the portion of the prophecy now before us describing the events of the memorable campaign of Buonaparte in Italy in the year 1796.

And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflowed from before him, and shall be broken. Buonaparte was appointed through the influence of the Director Barras to the command of the army of Italy early in the year 1796 ; and having joined it, hostilities commenced on the 9th of April between the French and the combined Austrian, Neapolitan, and Piedmontese army, commanded by General Beaulieu, which defended the passes of the Alps. On the 26th of the same month Buonaparte, in a public address, thus recounted the victories he had already obtained ; “ Soldiers ! in the course of
“ fourteen days you have acquired six victories,
“ taken 21 stand of colours, 50 pieces of cannon, several strong fortresses, and conquered
“ the richest portion of Piedmont. You have
“ taken 1500 prisoners, and killed and wounded
“ more than 10,000 men ; the two armies that
“ but lately attacked you with audacity, now
“ fly in terror before you,” &c. But we do not learn the nature of his first successes, only from his own mouth. The Directory considered his exploits and those of his army as so worthy of their commendation, that they addressed a letter

to him, expressing “ the satisfaction they felt
 “ in finding the choice they had made of him,
 “ to conduct the army of Italy to victory, jus-
 “ tified by the laurels he had gained.” It is
 observed by a military writer, that Buonaparte
 “ had but one object, towards which he directed
 “ all his movements, and applied all his means ;
 “ this was to *break the line of the allies*. He
 “ succeeded in it, *by bringing almost the whole*
 “ *of his force to bear on the weakest part of their*
 “ *line*, a simple manœuvre, which can scarcely
 “ fail of being successful, if executed with
 “ foresight, celerity, and vigour*.” Thus
 “ *with the arms of a flood*” the opposing Aus-
 trian army was “ *broken*” before him. In his
 address to his army of the 20th of May, he
 describes their exploits in terms very similar to
 those in which they were foretold by the Angel
 to Daniel ; for the violence of a desolating flood,
 or an irresistible torrent, is so apt an emblem
 of the force of a victorious army, that it is not
 only a scriptural symbol, but has been intro-
 duced as a figure into ordinary language.
 “ Soldiers!” says he, “ *you have precipitated*
 “ *yourselves like a torrent* from the summit of
 “ the Appenines : you have driven back and

* See History of the Campaign of 1796 in Germany and Italy, p. 235.

“ dispersed all who opposed your march—
“ Piedmont, liberated from Austrian tyranny,
“ has yielded to her natural sentiments of peace
“ and amity towards France : Milan is yours,
“ and the republican flag floats throughout
“ Lombardy, while the Dukes of Parma and
“ Modena owe their political existence solely
“ to your generosity.” The King of Sardinia,
and the Dukes of Parma and Modena, having
been “ *broken*” before the power of Buona-
parte, and compelled to sue for peace ; and
the Austrian army, commanded by General
Beaulieu, having been so completely “ *broken*,”
that it was obliged to retire into the Tyrol, and
to leave all Italy open to the French ; the King
of Naples was induced on the 4th of June to
conclude an armistice with them, in which it
was stipulated, that his troops should separate
from those of the empire. On the 19th June
Buonaparte entered the dominions of “ *the*
“ *Prince of the (false) covenant*,” that is, of the
Pope*, and took possession of the towns of

* Although we read chiefly in the Scriptures of a *Holy Covenant* between God and his people, which it is declared in divers places shall never be broken ; yet on the other hand we read of a *Covenant with Death and an agreement with Hell*, which those are considered as entering into who depart from God : which Covenant God declares, by the mouth of

Bologna, and Ferrara, and Fort Urbino ; and his farther progress was only stopped by the Pope's submission, who agreed to pay to France 21,000,000 of French livres (equal to 875,000*l.*), and likewise to deliver up to the commissaries of the republic 100 paintings, as well as 200 precious manuscripts ; and consented also that

the Prophet Isaiah (chap. xxviii. ver. 18), that he will annul, destroy, and render unavailing.

If the *holy Covenant* designates the true church, or the Protestant nation, the *false Covenant* may be equally said to characterize the cotemporary Apostate church, or the Papacy. The term the "*Prince of the Covenant*" occurring in a prophecy relating to these latter days, we may therefore consider either to mean the King of Great Britain, as the head of the holy or Protestant nation, or the Pope, as the chief or head of the grand Apostacy of the present day. If, however, the Protestant nation is most naturally made the subject of prophecy, as a *people*, we may conclude, that as the *Prince* or *Chief* of the Covenant is here *individually* mentioned, it is more probable that the Chief of the *false* than of the *holy* Covenant is intended ; the Pope being also in other parts of the Scriptures made a principal subject of prophecy. Our application of the term to him will be further confirmed from our finding that no explanatory word or phrase, indicating that it is the *holy* Covenant, is in the present instance introduced ; whereas in all passages where the Protestant nation is clearly referred to under the term "the Covenant," the epithet "*holy*" is prefixed, or the people are otherwise shewn to belong to this holy Covenant by being designated as "*the people that do know their God.*"

the French should retain possession of those towns which they had seized; of which Bologna is considered as, next to Rome, the richest and most important city of the dominions of the church.

“ *And after the league made with him he shall*
“ *work deceitfully : for he shall come up, and*
“ *shall become strong with a small people ; he*
“ *shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest*
“ *places of the province.*” Buonaparte, after the league made by him with the Pope, and the other Princes of the northern states of Italy, was occupied in extending, throughout the whole of the country, the empire of the French, and the terror of his arms. It is observed by one who treats of this period*, “ that he was
“ equally careful to impress the Italians with
“ favourable opinions of his inclination to promote their general welfare, and equally of
“ his respect for learning and literary men.
“ This, he knew, would exhibit an advantageous contrast of the respective dispositions
“ of the French and the Austrians in matters
“ of this nature. The neglect and indifference
“ of these latter, for the polite arts and sciences,
“ and their professors, had long been well
“ known, and it was a part of Buonaparte’s

* See Dodsley’s Annual Register for the year 1796, p.
102—104.

“ *policy*, by displaying his partiality to charac-
 “ ters of this description, to conciliate their
 “ esteem, and secure their prepossession in
 “ his favour.

“ To this intent he had taken with him to
 “ Italy several eminent literati from France.
 “ They were the companions of his private
 “ hours, and were looked upon as a credit to
 “ his expedition: with them he consulted in
 “ what manner he could make it redound to
 “ the benefit of letters and philosophical know-
 “ ledge.

“ The cultivators of learning in Italy, to
 “ whom he was represented in this advantage-
 “ ous light, could not fail to conceive amicable
 “ ideas of him, and he was particularly soli-
 “ citous to improve them. An opportunity
 “ offered, on the reduction of Milan, where
 “ he requested an interview with the cele-
 “ brated astronomer Oriane, in order to testify
 “ his respect, and that of the French nation,
 “ for his extraordinary merit. In a letter,
 “ written to him on this occasion, and addressed
 “ through him to all the Italian literati, Bu-
 “ naparte exerted his persuasive talents to
 “ convince him and them of the predilection
 “ with which the rulers of France regarded all
 “ individuals of his character, and how zealous
 “ they were in the protection and encourage-

“ ment of polite knowledge and the liberal
“ arts, and desirous to afford them the most
“ generous and honourable countenance and
“ support. ‘ All men of genius,’ said the
“ letter, ‘ all those who have obtained a dis-
“ tinguished rank in the republic of letters,
“ are Frenchmen, in whatever country they
“ may have been born. The learned in Italy
“ esteemed themselves happy, if left unmolested
“ by princes and priests: but henceforth opi-
“ nions shall be free, and the inquisition, in-
“ tolerance, and despotism, be no more. ‘ I
“ invite,’ he continued, ‘ the learned to assem-
“ ble, and propose their sentiments on the
“ means necessary to be taken, and the as-
“ sistance they may require, to give new life
“ and existence to the sciences and the fine
“ arts.’

“ He addressed the university of Pavia in the
“ same style, and took peculiar pains to impress
“ on the minds of the public, that the French
“ were solicitous to place the people of Italy
“ on the same footing with themselves, in
“ whatever related to the liberty of thinking ;
“ and would feel more satisfaction in acquiring
“ their esteem and their approbation of the
“ proceedings of the French government, and
“ of the political maxims on which it acted,
“ than in the submission enforced by their

“ victorious arms. The conquests obtained
 “ over the human mind, being of far greater
 “ importance to men who knew the difficulty
 “ of obtaining them, and the utility which
 “ they produced, than victories won by the
 “ sword, and empire maintained through
 “ terror.

“ Language of this kind, which was incessantly in the mouth of the French general, and of those in his confidence and intimacy, *did more in conciliating the people, who had submitted to him, than the dread of his power ;* the clergy and the nobility excepted : to the very existence of which orders the French system was immediately inimical : the other classes beheld in the French a nation of warriors, who seemed to have taken up arms for the purpose of reducing all other nations to a level of opinion and government with themselves, and to harbour no enmity but to hereditary sovereigns, and the adherents to implicit obedience in matters of church and state.

“ To disseminate such a disposition in the generality was the chief aim of the French general, well knowing that, on such a ground, he would be able to erect a more durable fabric of that republicanism he had in view, than on the military power he had esta-

“ blished ; and which, without those concomi-
“ tances that he held out to the natives, would
“ have been odious to them, and have pre-
“ sented no other picture than that of conquest
“ and tyranny.

“ In this court that was paid by the French
“ general to men of letters and genius, we con-
“ template a policy not less solid than sublime.
“ The class too that would be flattered by this
“ address was more numerous by far than it
“ will be very easy to imagine ; so great a por-
“ tion of mankind being so highly satisfied with
“ their own talents and accomplishments.

“ The professions of Buonaparte, however,
“ but ill accorded with his actions. The whole
“ of his conduct indicated that his main design
“ was to establish the power and influence of
“ the French in Italy. *At Milan he formed*
“ *the plan of a republic on the model of that*
“ *of France*, and to be under her protection,
“ in the same manner as the victorious and
“ ambitious Romans admitted the conquered
“ states to the alliances and friendship of the
“ Senate and people of Rome : thus endea-
“ vouring *to subvert the authority of the Em-*
“ *peror, and to erect that of France on its ruins;*
“ by abolishing feudal rights, and giving the
“ great mass of the people a share and an in-
“ terest in the new government. *He fortified*

“ *Verona*, notwithstanding the reclamations
 “ of the Venetians, and placed general officers,
 “ in whom he could confide, over the Tuscan
 “ troops, as well as over those of Picdmont and
 “ Milan. The intentions of the French were
 “ still less concealed at Paris; where those
 “ who bore sway, at the same time that they
 “ professed a desire to fraternize with all na-
 “ tions, talked of nothing but the extension
 “ of their arms, and of Paris becoming the
 “ capital of Europe. They boasted of the ge-
 “ nerous design of giving peace and tranquil-
 “ lity to all nations under the protection of the
 “ French republic.”

Thus he became strong with a small people, or
 with a force apparently inadequate to the ex-
 tent of his views; and which might perhaps
 have been insufficient had the resistance to him
 been universal. But endeavouring to obtain a
 party amongst the people themselves, and
 making use of every artifice that his genius
 suggested to him, he entered peaceably upon the
 fattest places of the province.

*And he shall do that which his fathers have
 not done, nor his fathers' fathers: he shall scat-
 ter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches.*
 It is observed in the History of the Campaign
 in Germany and Italy in the year 1796, that
 the motives which determined the French go-

vernment to push the war in Italy with more vigour than it had done the preceding years, were as follows: "To detach the King of Sardinia from the coalition—To carry the war into the proper estates of the Emperor—To destroy his preponderance in Italy—To shut up his ports against the English—and above all to find in a rich and fertile country, money, subsistence, and resources of every description." I have already mentioned the great contributions which had been exacted from the Pope, as the price of the armistice granted him. The Duke of Parma had also been called upon to pay as his contribution "2,000,000 of livres French money (84,000*l.*) —To furnish 1,200 draught horses with their harness, 400 dragoon horses with their harness, and 100 saddle horses, for the superior officers of the army—To give up 20 paintings, which were to be chosen by the general-in-chief, from among those in the duchy—To lodge in the magazines of the French at Tortona, 10,000 quintals of wheat and 5,000 of oats, and to furnish 2,000 oxen." The Duke of Modena had also been obliged to purchase an armistice of Buonaparte at a most excessive price, undertaking to pay to the French republic "7,500,000 livres French money (313,000*l.*) —To furnish 2,500,000 livres

“ (105,000*l.*) in provisions, powder, and other
 “ military stores, for the French army—And to
 “ deliver up 20 paintings, taken from his gallery
 “ or his dominions, to be selected by persons
 “ nominated by the French for that purpose.”

But besides these contributions exacted upon Buonaparte's first successes in Italy, similar demands were afterwards made; whence it is observed by the author of the History of the Campaign of the year 1796, that Buonaparte despoiled Italy of its most precious effects, drawing from it more than 100,000,000 of livres (4,200,000 *l.*) by contributions. The particulars given are as follows: Lombardy was obliged to contribute 25,000,000 of livres; Mantua, 800,000; the Imperial Fiefs, 200,000; the Duchy of Modena, 10,000,000; Massa and Carrara, 600,000; Parma and Placentia, 20,000,000; the Pope, 36,000,000; Bologna and Ferrara, 3,700,000; Leghorn, as the depot of English magazines, 8,000,000. “ And,” it is further observed, that “ if we add to these contributions, the seizure of all the money which was found in the public coffers, 51 chests of silver plate taken at Milan, Lodi, and Bologna; if we add the immense value of the requisitions in kind made by the French, the pillage, the extortions, and the robberies, committed by the French army, we may have an idea of the

“ fate of Italy ; and of the sentiments which its
“ inhabitants must feel for their conquerors.
“ Buonaparte had no hesitation to say, in the
“ proclamation which he made to his soldiers
“ in entering into Carinthia, that all the ex-
“ penses of the army of Italy during eleven
“ months had been paid by the conquered
“ countries, and that he had besides sent
“ 30,000,000 of livres (1,250,000*l.*) into France.”

The system of the army's thus supporting itself by plunder, and rendering itself independent of any assistance from the French republic, was so completely acted upon, that it is said to have excited the apprehensions of the friends of liberty in France ; accordingly “ one of the principal French journalists
“ expressed his apprehensions at the critical
“ situation in which the republic was placed,
“ by generals providing for their armies with
“ the spoils of conquered countries, when the
“ necessities of the state prevented them from
“ receiving supplies from home ; and he cited
“ the examples of Sylla, Marius, and Cæsar,
“ who conquered the liberties of their country,
“ *by dispersing among their armies the treasures*
“ *they had amassed**, or by scattering among

* Van Ess's Life of Buonaparte, Vol. II. p. 91.

them, as Buonaparte now did, the prey, and spoil, and riches.

But the French were not satisfied with seizing the gold, the silver, oxen, horses, provisions, and military stores of all sorts; and with making such extensive requisitions of these articles, that at the end of the campaign they had “com-
“ pletely ruined the fruitful and not long before
“ flourishing country of Lombardy;” but they made it also a primary object to possess themselves of all the most valuable specimens of the arts, including it as one article in their treaties with the Pope, and also with the Dukes of Parma and Modena (as already mentioned), that a certain number of their most valuable paintings should be delivered up to the commissaries of the French Republic. Several artists were therefore sent from Paris, who chose, in the towns of Bologna, Ferrara, Modena, Urbino, Milan, Pavia, Parma, and Placentia, all the most precious monuments of the arts which were to be found, and sent them to Paris.

It has been observed, “ that the spoliation of
“ the repositories of art, which was now an-
“ nexed to the conditions of treaties with the
“ Italian Princes, proved one of the most vex-
“ atious as well as mortifying circumstances of
“ the French invasion. The monuments of

“ painting and of statuary, which adorned their
“ palaces, cities, and churches, were viewed by
“ the natives with a mixture of delight and
“ veneration. They entertained a species of
“ affection for them; and, in the presence of
“ some of them, they placed not a little confi-
“ dence. They had become a kind of tutelary
“ deities and household gods. The Italians
“ were sensible of emotions not altogether dis-
“ similar to those of the Israelite Micah, into
“ whose house armed men from Dan entered,
“ and took away ‘ the graven image, and the
“ ephod, and the seraphim, and the molten
“ image*.’ In one respect, the oppressions of
“ the French in Italy were greater than those of
“ the northern hordes under Attila and Odoac-
“ cer; for these chiefs did not trouble the Ro-
“ mans with demands of pictures, statues, and
“ sculptures. To deprive the poor Italians of
“ objects so long endeared to them, by habit
“ and possession, seemed an act of tyranny
“ exercised upon the vanquished in the wan-
“ tonness of power. Those objects had been
“ respected by all parties, in the vicissitude of
“ those events that had so frequently subjected
“ the places that contained them to different
“ masters. The French were the first who had

* “ Ye have taken away the Gods which I made, and what
“ have I more ?”—Judges xviii. 24.

“ conceived the idea of seizing them as matter
 “ of mere property. Herein they were accused
 “ of consulting their vanity rather than their
 “ taste for the fine arts. The Romans, in their
 “ triumphant periods, had plundered the Greeks
 “ of all the master-pieces they could find in
 “ their country. This appeared to the French
 “ a precedent fit for their imitation, and a sanc-
 “ tion for robbing the Italians of what they
 “ esteemed the most valuable part of their pro-
 “ perty, and the most honourable proof they
 “ still retained of their former superiority in
 “ those departments of genius. The conduct
 “ of the French, in tearing the monuments of
 “ antiquity and art from Italy, and carrying
 “ them to Paris, was universally condemned
 “ and execrated by all civilized nations*.”
 “ Thus did the French plunder Italy, as the
 “ Romans had formerly plundered Greece †.”
 Thus did Buonaparte do *that which his fathers*
had not done, nor his fathers’ fathers; the writers
 who have described these events being obliged
 to refer as far back as to the ancient Romans for
 a similar example.

And he shall forecast his devices against the
strong holds, even for a time. After the retreat
 of the Austrians into the Tyrol, “ whilst Bu-

* See Dodsley’s Annual Register for the year 1796, p. 96.

† See History of the Campaign of 1796, p. 254.

“naparte was,” as above described, “exercising his empire in Italy, *possessing himself of its spoils*, and rendering himself an object of fear and hatred, his troops were carrying on the sieges of *Mantua* and of *the castle of Milan*. The latter place surrendered on the 29th June, twelve days after the trenches were opened*.” Buonaparte being in want of the artillery necessary for carrying on a siege, and of the requisite stores, had been compelled to content himself, after the retreat of General Beaulieu into the Tyrol, with *investing the town of Mantua*, and he even had not been able to form the blockade but at a great distance, on account of the peculiar situation of the place.

“Mantua, which has so much occupied the attention of Europe, has been the aim of so many efforts, has caused such an effusion of blood, and has long held in suspense the fate of Italy, has always been fortified; and its situation has made it considered in all former Italian wars as *the most important fortress* in that country, and in a military point of view as the capital of Italy. It has sustained several sieges, and whenever it has surrendered, it has been more in consequence of a blockade and want of provisions than of open

* History of the Campaign of the year 1796, p. 258, &c.

“ force, or the regular operations of art. Its
 “ chief means of defence consists less in its for-
 “ tifications, than in the difficulties opposed to
 “ the approach and attacks of an enemy. The
 “ town being entirely surrounded by water and
 “ marshes, its unwholesomeness is not the least
 “ of its means of defence ; for it is impossible
 “ to besiege it without risking the total destruc-
 “ tion of an army by sickness. In almost every
 “ siege this place has sustained, pestilential
 “ fevers have made great ravages, both amongst
 “ the assailants and defenders of it.

“ These considerations did not deter General
 “ Buonaparte, who had been taught by past
 “ successes to be confident of future ones.
 “ After having carried some outposts of the
 “ town, *he opened the trenches before it on the*
 “ *18th of July.* But the difficulties attending
 “ the siege, the fevers which broke out in his
 “ army, and the successful sorties of the garri-
 “ son, rendered the progress of the French ex-
 “ tremely slow, and enabled the Count de Can-
 “ to d’Irles, who commanded in the town, to
 “ defend it until relieved*.” Thus did Buona-
 parte *forecast his devices against this strong*
hold for a time, or during the absence of the
 Austrian army from the scene of action.

* History of the Campaign of the year 1796, p. 258—261.

And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the South with a great army: and the king of the South shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army. The kings of the North and of the South, mentioned in the first part of this prophecy, which related to the divided Macedonian empire, were the kings of Syria and of Egypt; but in this latter part of the prophecy relating to the Roman empire, these terms will be found to designate the principal potentates of the north and of the south of *Europe*. As the Emperor of Russia is unquestionably the principal potentate of the North, so the Emperor of Austria must be considered to be the principal potentate of the South. Again, as Austria literally means South, the title, *King or Emperor of Austria*, is in fact the same as *King of the South*; and we must further observe, that his Italian states, which were the scene of the battles here described, lie to the south of France. On all these grounds we must suppose that the present Emperor of Austria is here meant by the King of the South; and the terms being thus understood, the text now before us will be explained, by merely pursuing the regular course of the History of the Campaign of the year 1796, which continues as follows.

“ The court of Vienna saw, when too late,
“ the insufficiency of the troops which it had
“ sent into Italy. As it could not possibly ac-
“ quiesce in leaving so valuable a part of its
“ dominions as Lombardy in the hands of the
“ French, it *resolved to make the greatest ef-*
“ *forts for the recovery of that country.* All
“ the troops stationed in Carinthia and Styria
“ were sent by forced marches into the Tyrol ;
“ and the inhabitants of the latter country
“ were equipped and formed into corps of
“ chasseurs. As all these different reinforce-
“ ments would not however have made Ge-
“ neral Beaulieu’s army sufficiently strong to
“ enable him to renew offensive operations,
“ the cabinet of Vienna, attending to the most
“ pressing concern, sacrificed its plan of a
“ campaign beyond the Rhine to its personal
“ and immediate interest in Italy. Field
“ Marshal Wurmser, who commanded the
“ imperial army of the upper Rhine, received
“ an order to set off with 30,000 effective men
“ for Italy, and there to replace General Beau-
“ lieu. The months of June and July passed
“ away before these different corps could form
“ a junction, or be sufficiently recovered from
“ the fatigues of so long a march, and put in
“ a state to act. Ten thousand men out of
“ the 30,000, who had come from the army of

“ the Rhine, were left to observe a French
“ corps which menaced the bishoprick of
“ Inspruck, and on the 29th of July, Marshal
“ Wurmser began his march against the
“ French, at the head of an army of 47,000
“ men.”

Buonaparte, though commanding a great army, on this second advance of the Austrians, found himself inferior to *the king of the South, who was now stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army.* And he was obliged on the night of the 31st July precipitately to raise the siege of Mantua, with the loss of 600 men, all his artillery, and all the ammunition of the siege. He then took the only course which could save his army and preserve the Milanese. “ He judged, that by
“ concentrating his forces, and advancing rapidly against the corps of M. de Quosdanovich” (who directed the advance of one column), “ he might defeat him before he
“ could be succoured by Marshal Wurmser ;” and with no less expedition than judgment, taking advantage of the faults and of
“ the separation of these generals, he fell unexpectedly on the corps of the latter, which
“ being too much extended, was easily defeated, and dissipated” in several actions, fought on the 31st July, and the 1st, 2d, and

3d August. He afterwards on the 5th attacked the army commanded by Marshal Wurmser, which he defeated, forcing him to retire into the Tyrol. "The French general," it is observed by the author of the History of the Campaign of 1796, "executed on this occasion the same manœuvre, to which he had before owed, and has owed since, so much success." In speaking of his subsequent actions, this manœuvre is thus explained and described: "He exerted himself constantly to prevent the two corps of his enemy from forming a junction; advanced like lightning, sometimes against the one, sometimes against the other, always attacking their weakest point, and pushing his successes as far, and with as much vivacity as possible. In this manner, although he had upon the whole fewer men than the Austrian generals, he found himself, when opposed to either of them separately, equal, and sometimes even superior, in number. The frequency of his attacks, and the bravery of his troops, secured the success of this manœuvre, and gave him the victory." Thus, notwithstanding the superiority of the Austrian forces, the king of the South *did not stand*; for Buonaparte, with the generals that acted under him, *forecast devices against him.*

The contest continued till the 16th of January, 1797; and during the course of the latter part of the campaign, the Austrians had two armies completely defeated, which successively attempted to advance, under the command of General D'Alvinzy, to the relief of the important fortress of Mantua; when finding themselves, after these reverses, wholly incapable of undertaking any thing further, or of preserving the places they held, they endeavoured to save the wrecks of the army, by retiring into the Tyrol; and Marshal Wurmser, who had thrown himself into Mantua, was obliged on the 2d February, 1797, to surrender the fortress, and with it every hope of making any successful opposition to the French forces in Italy.

It appears from official reports, that during the eight days between the 30th July, and the 8th August, the Austrian armies, commanded by Marshal Wurmser and General Quosdanovich, lost in killed, wounded, and prisoners, no less than 17,000 men: the loss of the armies commanded by Generals D'Alvinzy and Davidovich, in the actions of the 14th, 15th, and 16th of November, is estimated at between 12 and 13,000 men; and that of the armies commanded by Generals D'Alvinzy and Provera, on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of January, 1797,

at 17,000 men. The computation of the total loss of the Austrians, in the course of the campaign, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, is 75,000, and that of the French 60,000. Thus *the Austrian armies were overflown**, or broken and dispersed, *and many fell down slain.*

Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him. “Buonaparte was not indebted for his success to his tactics alone. He acknowledged himself, in his despatches, and the dispositions which he made clearly evinced, that he had been thoroughly instructed as to the projects of General D’Alvinzy. It would be imprudent,” it is observed, “to publish conjectures on the manner in which he received this most precious intelligence. But that what may be depended upon is, that *he did not procure it through the means of a common spy*, but from some one whose situation afforded opportunities of being well acquainted with the plans formed by the Austrians. If Buonaparte had not been so exactly informed, it is reasonable to believe, that instead of being so completely victorious, he would have been severely beaten at some point or

* “And his army shall overflow, or rather shall be overflown.” Bishop Newton in loco.

“ other, and that the Austrians would at least
“ have been enabled to break up the blockade
“ of Mantua. That general admitted that he
“ never incurred so great a danger,” as upon
the advance of General D’Alvinzy, “ and that
“ his position hung as it were by a thread.”
“ Buonaparte,” it is observed, “ as if he had
“ possessed the power of divination, hastened
“ from one place to another on the very day
“ and at the very hour it was necessary for him
“ to be at each place, to frustrate the opera-
“ tions of the Austrians. This excessive ex-
“ ertion, the constant cause of Buonaparte’s
“ triumphs, might on this occasion have drawn
“ him on to utter ruin, had he not been in-
“ formed with precision of the numbers, po-
“ sitions, and designs, of his enemies. With-
“ out this immense advantage, he would not
“ have dared to move his troops with almost
“ magical celerity, and to expose those points,
“ which he had left without sufficient means of
“ defence, to be forced in his absence. How-
“ ever brave, able, and fortunate, he would
“ never have ventured to play so hazardous a
“ game*.” It hence appears, that the main
cause of the defeat of the armies of the Em-
peror was this, that he was shamefully betrayed,

* History of the Campaign of 1796, p. 331, &c.

and that *those who fed of the portion of his meat assisted to destroy him* *.

“ *And both these kings’ hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table: but it shall not prosper; for yet the end shall be at the time appointed.*” It has already been observed, that in this prophecy the several subjects of it will be found to be treated of separately and distinctly from each other; by which plan a greater perspicuity and simplicity is given to it than it could otherwise possess †. The former verses describe the result of the latter period of the campaign, as it affected the Emperor of Germany and the Austrian forces; and I conceive that the verse

* Further information as to the means through which Buonaparte was made acquainted with the plans of the Austrian army, will be found in a work entitled “*Letters from Italy, between the years 1792 and 1798,*” by Mariana Starke. The authoress, who was at that time resident in Rome, when speaking of the advance of General D’Alvinzy’s army, relates (see vol. 1, p. 130, 1st ed.) the following anecdote: “At this critical moment (as I heard from what seemed good authority), while Buonaparte was sitting in his tent reckoning a large sum of money, and waiting for day-break, when his troops expected to be attacked,” by the forces of General D’Alvinzy, “an Austrian officer entered, staid a short time, and then disappeared. The money disappeared likewise, while Buonaparte told his comrades, *that Italy was vanquished, and Mantua theirs.*”

† See preceding page 347.

now before is to be understood as relating to the affairs of the Prince of the Covenant, or the Pope, during the latter part of the same period. We have seen that during the first period of the war, upon the defeat of General Beaulieu, and his retreat into the Tyrol, the Pope was obliged to purchase a suspension of hostilities at a very extravagant price. We are now informed that he again confederated with the Emperor, for it is said, *that both these kings' hearts were set to do mischief, and that they spake lies at one table.* The mischief referred to in the prophecy, which would have been effected by the success of their confederacy, was, we must suppose, the continuation of that system of ecclesiastical tyranny and superstition of which the Pope is the head, and of which Austria is one of the chief supporters, if not the principal one; but which Buona-parte was destined by Providence to overthrow. The lies which they spake were those false promises of success, with which they mutually encouraged each other; for the Emperor promised the Sovereign Pontiff "to send him " General Colli, several officers, and ten thousand men, *to drive the French from both the legations* *," of which they had taken possession.

* Memoirs of Pius VI. Vol. II. p. 296.

This confederacy between the Pope and the Emperor, or this "*perfidious under-plot*" of the Pope, as it is called by a French writer, took place in the month of December, 1796, and January, 1797. It is mentioned also by the author to whom I am already under so many obligations for the information he has given relative to the events of this campaign ; and whose authority I have already so frequently referred to, as an evidence of the fulfilment of this prophecy. "The Pope," he observes, "had taken the opportunity of the armistice he had concluded with the French" (in the month of June) "to commence negotiations for peace ; to effect this he made many advances to the French government : but the latter was little disposed to make peace with a Prince from whom it had nothing to fear, and of whom it had resolved to make a prey." The terms they offered therefore were at once so burdensome and so humiliating, that notwithstanding the invasion of his dominions, the dangers he incurred, and the weakness of his means of defence, he could not resolve to accept them. "It appears however that his Holiness was only determined to a refusal, by those articles which concerned his ecclesiastical jurisdiction : the acceptance of which would have destroyed the

“ doctrine of his infallibility, and the basis of
“ his Spiritual Empire.”—“ In refusing to ac-
“ cede to the conditions which the French go-
“ vernment wished to impose on him, he had
“ not been blind to the dangers to which he
“ exposed himself. He was not ignorant that
“ the French had resolved, if not to annihilate,
“ at least greatly to circumscribe his spiritual
“ and temporal power; and that they would
“ make the utmost efforts to penetrate further
“ into his dominions, to plunder and to revo-
“ lutionize them. Being conscious that he
“ had done every thing to allay the storm
“ which depended upon him, either in the
“ character of a prince, or of Head of the
“ Church, he now thought only of employing
“ all the means in his power to defend his ex-
“ istence in these two respects. Being no
“ longer able to reckon, at least ostensibly, on
“ the succour of the King of Naples, and hav-
“ ing reason to doubt the sincerity of the in-
“ tercession of the court of Spain in his fa-
“ vour, he *connected himself more closely with*
“ *the court of Vienna, and united his destiny*
“ *with that of the latter power.* He augmented
“ his army, and placed it on a war establish-
“ ment, and sought for extraordinary means of
“ defence in the affection of his subjects to-
“ wards him, and in their hatred to the French.

“ He exhorted all the inhabitants of the territories of the Church to arm ; and to induce them to do so, neglected neither promises, nor privileges, nor rewards.

“ He was well seconded by the zeal and patriotism of the higher ranks, and the opulent people. They readily employed their money and their influence in raising several corps of volunteers. The Princes of Cologne and Borghese each raised a regiment at his own expense. The States of the Church assumed all at once a military aspect, and their Head, after having shewn himself worthy of his spiritual elevation, by his wisdom and his attachment to principles, did himself no less credit as a sovereign by his courage and his resolution. On the 20th of December he ordered a body of troops to march to Faenza, and took measures that it should amount in a short time to 20,000 men. He gave the command of it to the Austrian General Colli (formerly the commander of the King of Sardinia’s troops), who, he had requested of the Emperor, might be allowed to be placed at the head of his army*.” Another writer, already referred to, observes also, that the warlike measures of

*. History of the Campaign of 1796, p. 280, 305, 306.

the Pope were concerted with the cabinet of Vienna, between "whom and Cardidal Albani" (the Pope's envoy) "*there existed at that time a very active negotiation.*" That the Pope "*had commenced hostile negotiations with the Court of Vienna,*" was also one of the excuses for invading the Ecclesiastical State, brought forward by Buonaparte in his declaration of the 3d February, 1797. Thus we see that the Emperor and the Pope *spake lies at one table, or entered into a confederacy together*; for as the Emperor or "King of the South" is spoken of as present in the field in the person of his generals, so he must be considered as present in the cabinet in the person of his ministers; or the Pope may be more properly considered as present at the court of Vienna in the person of his envoy, the Cardinal Albani.

But it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed. We have already mentioned the little success that attended this confederacy, as far as it regarded the Emperor, whose forces were completely defeated on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of January, 1797, a catastrophe which is imputed to several errors, but of which "the greatest undoubtedly was the ordering the Austrian General Provera to commence his campaign before he could be joined by the troops assembled at Faenza by

390. *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

“ the Pope, or before they could have time to
“ march towards the Po, with a view of causing
“ a diversion there*.” *Thus the confederacy
did not prosper, but the Austrian armies failed
through treachery, and their counsels were
turned into foolishness; because the end should
be at the time appointed.*

The result was equally disastrous as it affected the Pope. The events which took place in the Papal territories on this occasion are thus described. General Colli, who was sent by the Emperor to take the command of the Papal forces, “ had not reached Rome until
“ the 12th of January, 1797, when he immedi-
“ ately bestowed his attention on the organiza-
“ tion of the Papal forces; but our warriors” (the French) “ gained so rapid successes, that
“ the commander-in-chief of the troops of the
“ Holy See was soon left without an army to
“ command. In a few days the French made
“ themselves masters of Romagna, the duchy
“ of Urbino, and the marquisate of Ancona.” And the greater part of the Ecclesiastical State was occupied by the French arms; when the Pope, in order to save his capital, was obliged to “ give unreserved consent to all the proposi-
“ tions made to him by Buonaparte.—With re-
“ spect to General Colli, he had reason to con-

* History of the Campaign of 1796, p. 333.

“ gratulate himself on the resolution which the
“ Pope had taken of terminating so unfortunate
“ a war with all possible speed. Never had a
“ campaign been of shorter duration, *never*
“ *mission less successful**.” *It did not prosper,*
for the end was to be at the time appointed.

“ *Then shall he return into his land with great*
“ *riches ; and his heart shall be against the holy*
“ *covenant ; and he shall do exploits, and re-*
“ *turn to his own land.*” “ The French general
“ having no longer any opponents in Italy, re-
“ sumed the execution of those plans of plun-
“ der and dismemberment, which had been
“ concerted either by himself, or by the leaders
“ of the French Republic. He laid under fur-
“ ther contribution the Pope and the Grand
“ Duke of Tuscany,” and was able to boast, as
has been already mentioned, “ that besides
“ paying all the expenses of the army of Italy,
“ during eleven months, from the spoils of the
“ conquered countries, he had sent 30,000,000
“ of livres” (1,250,000*l.*) “ into France.”

In these verses then, namely, from the 22d to the 28th, we have a brief but comprehensive history of the campaign of Buonaparte in Italy in the year 1796. We have found it divided into two periods, “ the former,” and “ the latter;” the first period beginning early in

* Memoirs of Pope Pius VI. p. 330.

April, when the French under Buonaparte commenced their operations against the Austrians, commanded by General Beaulieu; the Austrian army is represented as being completely "*broken*" or routed by Buonaparte, upon which General Beaulieu was obliged to retreat into the Tyrol. Buonaparte, taking advantage of his absence, is next described as reducing the Pope (or the "*Prince of the Co-venant*") to submission; and as spreading his troops and raising contributions, or as "*scattering among them the prey, and spoil, and riches;*" and as consolidating his power in Italy, "*entering peaceably upon the fattest places of the province.*" This period of the war terminated with the investment of Mantua by Buonaparte on the 18th of July, during the absence of the Austrian army, when he "*fore-cast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time.*"

The second period commenced on the 29th July, when Field Marshal Wurmser, having been recalled from the army of the Upper Rhine to take the command of the army of Italy, advanced to the relief of Mantua. The defeat of that "*very great and mighty army,*" which the Emperor or "*King of the South*" collected together, is mentioned, as well as that his counsels should be betrayed, or that *those who fed of the portion of his meat should destroy him.* The

last thing spoken of is the alliance formed between the Emperor and the Pope, during part of the months of December, 1796, and January, 1797, when they are said to *speak lies at one table*. The period ends on the 16th January, 1797, on which day the Austrians received a severe defeat in the neighbourhood of Mantua; after which they retired from Italy, giving up the contest: and on the 2d of February, 1797, the fortress of Mantua surrendered.

It appears to me that a more bold and comprehensive view of the actions of this campaign could not be given than that which is contained in these few verses of the Prophet Daniel. Short as his account is, it tells more of the real history of the war than the usual details of the historians of the time; two of those which I have examined make no mention of that circumstance, upon which the whole event of the war turned; and were it not that we have another more detailed history of this campaign, written by an officer who states himself to be well acquainted with several persons in the Austrian service, we might have remained ignorant *that, in the year 1796, Austria fell through treachery*, for there would then perhaps have been no where any decided mention of this circumstance except the prediction of it, which is to be found in the prophetic history of Da-

niel. But ample as the details are which are given by the military writer whom I have above referred to as noticing this event, there is one particular in the history of this campaign which lay out of his province, as belonging only to its moral character. He could trace the reverses that the Austrian armies sustained to the treachery of those who were employed in the service of the Emperor; but that cause had itself a cause, which is to be found revealed *only* in the Scriptures. It was this, that the "*time appointed*" for the fall of Papal Power was now approaching, and all these second causes were but means in the hands of God for producing this event. The Austrian armies failed through treachery, and the mutual counsels of the Pope and of the Emperor were turned into foolishness, because *the end should be at the time appointed*. Long had the souls of the Martyrs been heard crying from beneath the altar, saying, "Lord, how long, O Lord, holy " and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our " blood on them that dwell on the earth*?" and the time of vengeance upon the inhabitants of the earth, so long delayed, being now come, vain were the efforts of man to arrest its progress; and vain indeed must those efforts be

* Rev. vi. 10.

that would turn away the vengeance directed against the seat of wickedness, “ the mother of “ the abominations of the earth,” that very city of Rome, within the precincts of whose empire was to be found “ the blood of Prophets “ and of the Saints, and of all that were slain “ upon earth*.”

At the end of the history of the war a nation is spoken of, called the Holy Covenant; and they are introduced at the end, because they had no immediate concern in the campaign; but Buonaparte took advantage of the circumstances of it to shew his constant enmity against that nation. It is said, before his return from Italy into his own land, laden with spoil, that “ *his heart shall be against the Holy Covenant.*” The Holy Covenant primarily means the Jews, for formerly, when all the world was involved in the darkness of a false religion, it then pleased God to choose one family alone, the family of Abraham, to himself; to make his name known unto them, and to make a *covenant* with them, that he would be unto them a God, and that they should be his people†. And so in these latter days, when all the ten kingdoms of the divided Roman empire were in-

* Rev. xviii. 24.

† Gen. xvii. 2, 4, 7, 9—14, 19, 21; Exod. vi. 4, 7.

volved in the darkness of the Papal superstition, one of them alone was (at the time of the Reformation) called by the mercy of God to the true knowledge of himself. This highly favoured nation is Great Britain, which now stands in the place formerly filled by the Jewish nation, as the chosen people of God; and against this nation, Buonaparte and Infidel France have maintained a constant and deep-rooted enmity.

It has already been stated, that one of the primary objects of the Directory, in the invasion of Italy, was, *that they might shut its ports against the English.* Soon after Buonaparte's return into France, it is also to be observed that he took the command of an army destined *for the invasion of England.* But the particular proof that he gave *during his stay in Italy*, that *his heart was set against Great Britain* (the Holy Covenant), and which must therefore be considered to be the event referred to in the prophecy, was this, that he suddenly and unexpectedly took possession of the port and opulent city of Leghorn, belonging to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, with whom he had concluded a treaty, and seized all the British merchandise found in it, stating, as the reason for this outrageous violation of the neutral territories of the Grand Duke, that it was designed as

a blow against the English, or, in his words, “ *to repress the excesses daily committed by the English in the port of Leghorn.*”

In concluding the account of the expedition of Buonaparte into Italy, I must observe, that though it may seem extraordinary that so large a portion of Scripture should be employed in describing the events of only one year, the fall of the modern Babylon, that is, of Rome, at whose temporal power the most important blow was now struck, is an event of so great interest, that in the Revelations of Saint John an entire chapter is employed in describing it.

The war in Italy terminated, as has already been stated, with the surrender of Mantua, on the 2d of February, 1797. The words of the text, “ *the end shall be at the time appointed,*” will however carry on our attention to the events of the remainder of the year 1797, and to the month of February, 1798, when the Papal government, which had existed for so many centuries, was at length overthrown.

Buonaparte, having entirely expelled the Austrians from Italy, followed up his successes, and passing the Alps, invaded the hereditary estates of the Emperor; and having several times defeated the Archduke Charles, who endeavoured to oppose his progress, he threatened

Vienna itself. Early however in April, 1797, a suspension of hostilities was agreed upon, which terminated in the treaty of Campo Formio, signed on the 17th of October following.

A French writer, whom we cannot suspect of a wish to exhibit an exaggerated picture of the ill conduct of his countrymen towards the Pope, and of the wretched condition he was in when left in their power, thus describes his situation during the year 1797 : “ Commotions,” he observes, “ anxieties of every kind, lively alarms, “ serious losses, a catastrophe which cost him “ at once his money and his peace, and his “ glory ; humiliations, insurrections, every “ thing that can render a Prince’s reign tem- “ pestuous — such were the events which “ marked for Pius the chief part of the year “ 1797.”

A very strong republican party existed in the city of Rome itself, and “ no measures were “ spared that could tend to provoke an insur- “ rection, or at least to excite the apprehension “ of such an event. In one place was read on “ the walls” (as if the true meaning of the prophecy before us had been understood, and its speedy fulfilment was foreseen), “ *The time is “ come;*” in another, “ *Rome is in her last*

“ *agony.*” For a long time the Roman government submitted patiently to these outrages, and when they at length appeared to assume so alarming an aspect, that it was obliged to take active measures to repress them, “ from that moment,” it is observed, “ people “ said, *that the last hour of the Papacy was at “ hand.*” A French woman, named La Barousse, declared, “ *that the empire of the Popes “ was drawing near to its end,* that Heaven was “ weary of it, and that she would not depart “ from Rome until she had seen that prediction “ accomplished.”

Such was the state of the public mind, when, during a popular commotion that took place in the month of December, 1797, the insurgents of the republican party ran to take shelter within the jurisdiction of the palace of Joseph Buonaparte, who was the ambassador from the French Republic resident at Rome; here however they were pursued by the soldiery, in violation of the privileges attached to the palaces of the ambassadors of foreign powers, and put to death; and the French General Duphot, who was shortly to have been married to one of Buonaparte's sisters, was slain in endeavouring to appease the tumult.

This unfortunate affair afforded a pretext to the French for completely overthrowing the

government ; their ambassador immediately left Rome, notwithstanding every possible submission was made, and every atonement offered for this unauthorized and unexpected act of the soldiery ; and General Berthier was directed to avenge the French Republic. He accordingly marched with a considerable body of forces to Rome, and while he lay encamped without its gates, the Roman people on the 15th February, 1798, proclaimed their independence ; the tree of liberty was planted in the front of the Capitol, and a popular government was established.

“ General Berthier however,” it is said “ having come to take up his residence in Rome, assumed in fact the reins of the government, which as yet had only nominal chiefs.”—

“ Such of the Cardinals as had not already fled from the city on the wings of terror, were assembled in council, and seemed disposed still to uphold the authority of the Pontiff. They were preparing to celebrate the anniversary of his coronation, but how poignant their grief when they witnessed the march of the Roman and French patriots, who were proceeding to plant, with the most solemn pomp, the tree of liberty before the statue of Marcus Aurelius ! A heartfelt conviction told them that *their last hour was arrived* : the Gallic army were the real sovereigns of

“ Rome, and could admit no partition of autho-
“ rity ; nor did there any longer remain to the
“ Sacred College even the resource of a capitulation. Humbled, disarmed, destitute of support and of friends, they saw themselves
“ compelled to surrender at discretion.

“ Behold them now,” observes the author of this account, “ in the deepest affliction marching to the Vatican, the centre of their fallen empire. With mournful eye they survey those vestibules, those halls which they had never been wont to traverse ungreeted by the homage of a bowing throng. Those Cardinals so elate with their dignity, find themselves suddenly denuded of all those brilliant externals which heretofore intoxicated their pride. They accompany with their profound but smothered sighs these words of the Scripture, which hitherto they had had on their lips alone, and of which they now too late feel the truth—‘ Vanitas vanitatum et omnia vanitas.’ The glory, the influence, the power, the splendour, with which they dazzled the vulgar and were themselves dazzled—all is eclipsed. Those rivals of sceptered monarchs will henceforward deem themselves thrice happy to be mingled and lost in the crowd of the meanest individuals, and to convert their obscurity into a shield to screen them from

“ the animosity of those who triumph in their
 “ humiliation. With melancholy voice they
 “ pronounce *their absolute renunciation of the*
 “ *temporal government.*” Thus the end was
 come at the time appointed.

But even “ their presence in Rome was
 “ deemed incompatible with the new order of
 “ things, the moment of extreme rigour was
 “ now arrived.”—“ All the Cardinals, guilty
 “ or innocent, were promiscuously involved in
 “ the same indiscriminate proscription.”—
 “ Several were seen to renounce the Roman
 “ purple, late so envied, now suddenly become
 “ so dangerous. Others to request as a favour
 “ that they might be designated by the title of
 “ ‘ *Citizen,*’ in the passports which were granted
 “ to them for their exit from the territories of
 “ the Ecclesiastical State.

“ After having the greater part of them suf-
 “ fered insult, imprisonment, spoliation, they
 “ hasted to seek, at a distance from Rome,
 “ some asylum where they might enjoy the only
 “ blessing to which they now aspired—tran-
 “ quillity. Some took refuge at Florence,
 “ others at Milan, at Bologna, at Naples, and
 “ in the states of Venice. Hardly was the new
 “ government formed, when there no longer
 “ existed a trace of the ancient; no longer a
 “ Cardinal to be seen in Rome, except some

“ individuals of that rank who were detained
“ by their great age or their infirmities*.” The
Pontiff’s two nephews sunk in one day from
opulence to beggary, the Pope himself was
banished from Rome, and his death was hast-
ened by the continued persecutions of the
French, and the hardships they forced him to
undergo: he died at Valence in France, and
was privately buried there, unslacked lime being
thrown into the grave to consume his body ;
nor was any memorial of him set up, till after
Buonaparte became First Consul : when he di-
rected a funeral ceremony to be performed, and
a monument to be erected to mark his name
and the situation he had filled.

Having executed his commission against the
modern Babylon, Buonaparte next goes against
Egypt, the ancient enemy of the Church of
God, and now professing the Mahometan su-
perstition. His motives in this expedition
appear to have been similar to those which in-
fluenced him in the last, namely, a hatred of
England, and a thirst of conquest and plunder ;
but these motives, like all others, were over-
ruled and made subservient to the accomplish-
ment of the will of God.

Ver. 29. “ At the time appointed he shall

* *Memoirs of Pius VI.* (translated from the French) Vol. II.
p. 313, 314, 316, 346, &c.

“ return and come toward the south, but it
 “ shall not be as the former, or as the latter ;
 “ 30. For the ships of Chittim shall come
 “ against him ; therefore he shall be grieved,
 “ and return, and have indignation against the
 “ Holy Covenant ; so shall he do ; he shall
 “ even return, and have intelligence with them
 “ that forsake the Holy Covenant.” Buona-

parte, on the 20th of May, 1798, sailed from Toulon with a fleet of thirteen sail of the line, seven frigates, and two hundred transports, carrying about twenty thousand men ; and on the 2d of July following he landed his army on the shores of Egypt. His avowed object being to take possession of that country, and through it to communicate with India : and then with the assistance of Tippoo Saib, and others of the native princes whom he might excite against the British, to overthrow their empire in the East. *But it was not as the former, or as the latter.* That is, Buonaparte was not successful as when he first defeated the Austrian army commanded by General Beaulieu, nor as when he “ a second time conquered Italy,” defeating the army commanded by General Wurmser. For *the ships of Chittim*, that is, the ships of the chief maritime power of this time, *came against him.*

The first step towards his complete discomfiture by the ships of Chittim, was the destruc-

tion of the French fleet which had conveyed him to Egypt (and which remained moored in the Bay of Aboukir). This was effected by a British fleet of thirteen sail of the line, commanded by Lord Nelson, in the battle of the Nile, fought on the 1st of August, 1798. This loss of their fleet was so serious an injury to the expedition, that the French Admiral Ganteaume, in reporting the event to the Minister of the Marine, stated it to be his opinion, that after so terrible a disaster nothing but peace could preserve the new colony.

The second step towards the defeat of his projects by the ships of Chittim, was, that Sir Sidney Smith, having three ships under his command, repulsed him before St. John d'Acre. Buonaparte having advanced from Egypt on an expedition into Syria, laid siege to this place; and on the fourteenth day of the siege effected a breach. He attempted to storm the place, but was repulsed. Repeated assaults were equally unsuccessful, and this was in a great degree owing to the assistance rendered by the English: for "the town of Acre standing on a rectangular point of land in the form of a square, of which two sides are washed by the sea, the *British ships* were enabled to contribute the protection of their guns to the garrison." In the description which is

given of one of these assaults it is stated, that
“ the *gun-boats* being within grape distance of
“ the head of the attacking column, did great
“ execution.” It is also related, that at the
latter end of the siege, Sir Sidney Smith per-
ceiving that it was now a most critical point of
the contest, and that an effort was necessary to
preserve the place for a short time, till some ex-
pected succours arrived, landed his boats at the
mole, and took the crews armed with pikes up
to the breach. The effect produced by this well-
timed assistance is thus described ; “ Ghezzar”
(the Turkish commandant) “ hearing that the
“ English were on the breach, quitted his sta-
“ tion, where, according to the ancient Turkish
“ custom, he was sitting to reward such as
“ should bring him the heads of the enemy,
“ and distributing musket-cartridges with his
“ own hand. The energetic old man, coming
“ behind, forcibly pulled them down, saying,
“ if any harm happened to his English friends,
“ all was lost. This amicable contest, as to
“ who should defend the breach, occasioned a
“ rush of Turks to the spot, and thus time
“ was gained for the arrival of the first body of
“ Hassan’s troops.” A sortie was then made,
and the enemy was driven back. In another,
which was the last assault, they were again re-
pulsed, and “ all hopes of success having

“ vanished, the enemy had no alternative left
“ but to retreat, which was put in execution
“ on the night between the 20th and 21st of
“ May, after a siege of sixty days*.” Buona-
parte, thus baffled in all his projects, quitted
the army in Egypt on the 23d August, 1799,
and returned by sea into France.

We read in the prophecy, that having been
thus defeated by the ships of Chittim, *he was
therefore grieved, and returned, and had indig-
nation against the Holy Covenant, or the fa-
voured people of God, who had been the cause
of his disappointment; so that we see Britain
is here doubly pointed out, first as being the
Holy Covenant, or the only one of the ten
kingdoms of the Roman Empire which had the
true knowledge of God; and secondly, as being
at the same time the principal maritime power
of the day. The grief which Buonaparte felt
at the final result of this expedition is thus
described in his history: “ Buonaparte saw, in
“ the final departure of his troops, the com-
“ plete failure of his ambitious hopes; he saw
“ himself defeated in the strong expectations
“ which he had formed of humbling England.
“ Cut off from all hopes of disturbing our
“ Indian possessions, and thus creating a*

* Dodsley's Annual Register, 1799, p. 35.

“ diversion in that quarter of the world in his
 “ favour, and without a navy, by which to
 “ counteract this derangement of his plans,
 “ *great indeed must have been his vexation at*
 “ *so calamitous a termination*.*”

What *intelligence*, communication, or correspondence, Buonaparte had at this time with those British subjects, who were traitors to their government, or *had forsaken the Holy Covenant* (from whom, as we may suppose, he endeavoured to learn how he might best work the destruction of England), is not, I believe, mentioned in any history; for as the treachery which caused the overthrow of the armies of the Emperor of Austria in the year 1796 was chiefly made known by its success, and from Buonaparte's having availed himself of it; so the traitorous correspondence here referred to, not having been attended with any visible result, is perhaps still undiscovered. We may however well imagine, that as hatred to England was the principal motive for his undertaking the invasion of Egypt, this passion was not decreased by the result of the expedition, and that having indignation against the Holy Covenant, he would leave no means untried to effect its destruction. We know that there

* Van Ess's *Life of Buonaparte*, Vol. V. p. 204.

were English and Irish traitors resident at this time in Paris, as there had been ever since the Revolution; and that delegates had before been expressly sent from Ireland, with whom the Directory had concerted the invasion of that country, which was attempted in the year 1796: and it is therefore possible, that it was with some of these characters that Buonaparte now held intercourse, though the transaction having been secret, is only revealed in Scripture.

Ver. 31. "And arms shall stand on his part." On Buonaparte's return to France he found their affairs in great disorder, and that their armies had been completely defeated and driven out of Italy by the Russians and Austrians, commanded by General Suwarrow. In his speech on the 9th of November, 1799, when he assumed the government as First Consul, he thus reflects on the incapacity of the former administration; "What have you done," said Buonaparte, "with the country which I left you so flourishing? I left you at peace, and I found you at war; I left you victory, and I have found defeat: I left you conquest, and the enemy are passing our frontiers: I left you the treasures of Italy, and I find nothing but oppression and po-

“ verty. Where are the hundred thousand
 “ heroes, my companions in arms, whom I
 “ left covered with glory? What is become of
 “ them? Alas! they are no more.” *Arms*
however stood on his part, for his military suc-
 cess soon changed the face of affairs. General
 Moreau was intrusted with the command of
 the army of the Rhine, and Buonaparte him-
 self undertook the arduous task of leading an
 army across the Alps into Italy. To effect this
 the greatest exertions were necessary, the can-
 non were dismounted, and placed on sledges
 formed for the purpose, which were drawn by
 five or six hundred men. One half of each
 regiment was employed in drawing cannon,
 while the other half bore the necessary baggage
 belonging to their corps. In this manner,
 having accomplished the passage of the Alps
 on the 31st of May, 1800, he entered Milan.
 He obtained several advantages over the Aus-
 trians, and took possession of Pavia and Pla-
 centia, and on the 16th of June completely
 defeated their army in the decisive battle of
 Marengo. So that it is computed that the
 Austrians lost, during the few days that this
 campaign had lasted, above 60,000 men. This
 victory put the fate of Italy in the hands of
 Buonaparte. The next morning after the battle

an armistice was agreed to on both sides, and immediately after Buonaparte returned to Paris.

The operations of Moreau in Germany were equally successful; having crossed the Rhine he gained various advantages over the Austrians; and agreeably to the general plan of the campaign that had been concerted between him and Buonaparte, so occupied the attention of General Kray, that he prevented his sending any reinforcements into Italy; but when the armistice concluded in that country between Buonaparte and General Melas, left him more at liberty to act independently, and to advance and push his successes, he speedily reduced the Austrian army in Germany to the necessity of following the example of their army in Italy, and of soliciting an armistice; which was granted on the 15th July; and on the 28th of that month preliminaries of peace were signed at Paris by the ministers of both powers. These however the Emperor of Germany refused to ratify, and hostilities again commenced, which led to the decisive battle of Hohenlinden, fought on the 3d December. This was a battle "that seemed worthy to decide the fate of an empire." The French took 80 pieces of cannon and 10,000 men, and the greatest part of the baggage of the Austrian

army. They still continued to advance towards the Austrian capital, were again twice victorious, and now approached within fifty miles of Vienna: that city was struck with terror; and “ the Emperor was constrained, “ by a succession of heavy losses, to declare “ his readiness to detach himself from his “ alliance with Great Britain, and to conclude “ a separate peace.” An armistice was accordingly agreed upon on the 25th December, 1800, which terminated in the treaty of Luneville, signed on the 9th of February, 1801. *Thus arms stood on his part*; for “ the (military) successes of Buonaparte enabled him “ to impose on Austria such terms of peace “ as were calculated to consolidate the power “ and authority of the victor, and to render “ resistance to any of his future projects of “ aggrandizement hopeless.”

Ver. 31. “ And they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the “ daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.” In order that we may ascertain the meaning of the terms here used, viz., the taking away the daily sacrifices, and placing the abomination that maketh desolate, we will refer to the eleventh verse of the last chapter of Daniel, where they again occur; and we shall there find, that a certain

period of 1290 prophetic days, or natural years, is to be dated from the time when the daily sacrifice is taken away : and again, by a reference to the seventh verse of the same chapter, it appears that this period of 1290 years is a prolongation of that remarkable period of 1260 years, so repeatedly mentioned both by Daniel and Saint John, as that during which the Papacy should flourish. The abomination of desolation mentioned in the verse before us must necessarily therefore be the Papacy.

The *Sanctuary of Strength* is the Temple at Jerusalem, which would formerly have been considered to have been polluted by the introduction of the worship of idols, in the place of the morning and evening sacrifice of the Lamb, appointed by the Jewish law. Since the Jewish service has been abrogated, our Saviour has declared, that those who worship God must worship him in spirit and in truth. The polluting of the Sanctuary of Strength, the placing the abomination that maketh desolate, and the taking away the daily sacrifice, therefore, in these latter days, means the introduction of a false religion, and the causing acceptable and spiritual worship to cease ; which was done in the Christian Church, when the mummeries, the idolatry, and the abominations of the Papacy, were introduced.

This being the meaning of the terms, the passage must refer to the re-establishment of the Papacy by Buonaparte, which took place at this time. The influence of the Pope had been entirely abolished in France at the period of the Revolution; and he was afterwards driven out of his dominions, and died in exile. In the year 1800, however, a new Pope was elected at Venice, under the auspices of the Emperor of Germany; and in the month of July following, the Austrians being in possession of Italy, delivered up the greater part of the Ecclesiastical States to his Holiness Pius VII., who accordingly took possession of the See of Rome, and began to exercise the functions of sovereignty.

“ Immediately after the treaty of Luneville
 “ had been disclosed, the French
 “ government, in their accustomed Feb. 24, 1801.
 “ manner, began to prepare the people for the
 “ change that was intended to be effected, by
 “ publishing in a newspaper, *that the Pope*
 “ *would be recognized as Bishop of Rome, and*
 “ *centre of the Catholic religion, with a mode-*
 “ *rate revenue, and that France would allow*
 “ *his authority, and defray the charges of*
 “ *public worship, on condition that he should*
 “ *sanction the sale of ecclesiastical property,*
 “ *the marriage of priests, and the law respect-*

“ ing divorces. In pamphlets too, the press
“ began to advocate the cause of religious
“ establishment.”—“ Long before this, it was
“ known that some negotiation had been be-
“ gun between Buonaparte and the Pope,
“ tending to the revival of a public worship in
“ France. On the 13th September, 1800,
“ Pius VII. had addressed a brief to the bishops
“ of the Gallican Church, informing them of
“ the circumstance, and requiring them to unite
“ their prayers to his, to obtain the blessing of
“ God on his endeavours for the accomplish-
“ ment of *so great a work as the restoration of*
“ *the Catholic religion in that great empire.* No
“ further communication was however made
“ on the subject.”—“ In the spring
“ of the present year a consistory May 27, 1801.
“ was held at Rome, the discussions and reso-
“ lutions of which were secret; at length, when
“ matters were considered suffi-
“ ciently ripe, a council, composed June 29, 1801.
“ of about forty constitutional or intruding
“ bishops, and as many priests of the same
“ description, was held at the church of Notre
“ Dame, the body of which was filled with an
“ immense crowd of spectators. The bishop
“ of Rennes presided, and after mass had been
“ performed, Gregoire delivered a long dis-
“ course, describing the events which had

“ most affected the cause of religion during
 “ late years, extolling the Christian system,
 “ and recommending a general union of all
 “ hearts in the cause of religion. The counsel
 “ then adjourned to deliberate in separate
 “ divisions.

“ The publication of the Concordat was ex-
 “ pected with great impatience, but till its
 “ ratification, every precaution was taken to
 “ prevent its stipulations from being
 “ known. When it was finally ar- Aug. 11, 1801.
 “ ranged, an extraordinary congregation of
 “ the Holy College was held at Rome to learn
 “ its contents, and while it was being printed
 “ for the purpose of general distribution, the
 “ printing-office of the Vatican was kept locked
 “ four days, and carefully guarded by sen-
 “ tinels. At length, the ratifications hav-
 “ ing been formally exchanged, the public
 “ curiosity was gratified by the Sept. 18, 1801.
 “ publication of this important
 “ compact. It was comprised in seventeen
 “ articles, which, after a statement that the
 “ Catholic, Apostolic, Roman religion, was
 “ the faith of the great majority of the French
 “ people, and an acknowledgment from his
 “ Holiness, that that religion had derived, and
 “ still might expect, the greatest advantages
 “ and the highest splendour from the estab-

“ lishment of the Catholic worship in France,
“ and from its being particularly professed by
“ the three Consuls; it was agreed, *that the*
“ *Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman Religion*
“ *should be freely exercised in France; the*
“ *government was to provide a maintenance for*
“ *the Bishops and Rectors; and French Catho-*
“ *lics were to be authorized to make donations*
“ *or bequests in favour of the Church.* This
“ instrument bore date the 10th September,
“ 1801, but was not made public in Paris till
“ the spring of the next year.

“ This new religious code was announced
“ to the French people by a proclamation of
“ the First Consul, dated April the 17th, 1802,
“ and a solemn celebration of the event was
“ to take place in the church of Nôtre Dame,
“ the metropolitan church of Paris, the next
“ day, being Sunday.

“ The magnificence of the fête, *which esta-*
“ *blished and proclaimed the Catholic religion*
“ *in France;* was far greater and more dazzling
“ than had attended any solemnity since the
“ Revolution. The procession of the govern-
“ ment to the cathedral emulated every de-
“ scription of eastern luxury and pomp. The
“ constituted authorities were drawn up in the
“ cathedral by eleven o'clock, at which hour
“ the procession moved from the Thuilleries.

“ The First Consul was preceded by the corps
“ diplomatique, the council of state, the general officers, and the ministers. His carriage
“ was drawn by eight horses, each led by a
“ servant in a superb livery; his corps of Mamelukes also attended in the richest uniforms. In the church the family of Buonaparte was seated in the most conspicuous place, above all the constituted authorities of France. The ceremony proceeded with great pomp. The anthems and the appropriate music were the work of the first composers in France, and the execution was by no means inferior. Every splendour that consuls, cardinals, bishops, archbishops, and the Pope’s legate, could give to the *re-establishment of the Catholic religion in France*, was most profusely lavished on this solemnity. The magnificence of the spectacle, as well as the occasion of it, were highly pleasing to the French people; and this step added greatly to the popularity of Buonaparte. It must however be remarked, that the republican party were much displeased, and several of the military obeyed, with the utmost reluctance, the orders to salute the cross which was carried before the procession. With respect to the chief of the French government, this measure was not

“ supposed to be connected with any religious
“ motive, but viewed merely in the light of a
“ political expedient. The whole life of Bu-
“ naparte was so replete with acts and expres-
“ sions which proved an utter contempt for
“ all religion, and an utter disregard to all
“ those obligations which religion tends to
“ impose and enforce, that no one believed in
“ his conversion to Christianity, more than
“ in his sincere adoption in 1798 of the reli-
“ gion of Mahomet. Both were professed for
“ political purposes, and the present profes-
“ sion excited neither wonder nor curiosity,
“ except as to its probable influence on the
“ people of France. That the great majority
“ of the nation was attached to the faith of
“ their forefathers was not disputed, and there-
“ fore the re-establishment of the rights of
“ public worship could not fail of producing
“ an extensive popular effect.”

Ver. 32. “ And such as do wickedly against
“ the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries ;
“ but the people that do know their God shall
“ be strong and do exploits.” The people
here spoken of are designated by the term *The*
Covenant, and are likewise spoken of as *those*
“ *that do know their God*,” by which it is evi-
dent that the British nation is meant, as in the
former part of the prophecy it is called *the*

Holy Covenant. The whole of the verse refers to the northern confederacy produced by the intrigues of Buonaparte in the year 1801, when the kingdoms of Russia, Sweden, Denmark, and Prussia, united together, to maintain principles subversive of the maritime rights and of the naval superiority of Great Britain.

It is observed, that after the astonishing changes produced in the situation of the French nation, by the successful campaign of the year 1800, “ the views and pretensions of
 “ the French government were not less gigantic and insolent, than their power was formidable. They felt no hesitation in publishing and avowing principles and systems,
 “ which in former times would have united
 “ against them every state in Europe.

“ Having made peace with Austria, Buonaparte was at liberty to bend his undivided
 “ attention towards England. The leading
 “ features of his policy towards this country
 “ appear to have been, to excite a confederacy
 “ against us among all the maritime powers,
 “ and to exclude us from all the ports of Europe. When Buonaparte was congratulated
 “ by all the constituted authorities on the
 “ peace which he had made with Austria, he
 “ replied, ‘ France will not reap all the bless-

“ ‘ ings of peace until she have a peace with
“ ‘ England ; all the powers of the continent
“ ‘ must force England to fall back into the
“ ‘ tract of moderation, of equity, and reason.’

“ He continued, with unfailing assiduity, to
“ represent to all maritime nations the over-
“ bearing haughtiness and insolence of this
“ country, and he endeavoured to revive the
“ armed neutrality of 1780 : the principle of
“ which was, that free and neutral bot-
“ toms made free and neutral goods. The
“ glaring fallacy of this opinion needs no
“ refutation ; the most obtuse mind must be
“ aware, that such a principle once admitted
“ would open a door to the exercise of privi-
“ leges prejudicial in an alarming degree to
“ the interests of this country ; nor, indeed,
“ to the interests of this country alone, for
“ even those powers who are advocates for
“ its establishment against us, might become,
“ they knew not how soon, in a situation that
“ would render it as injurious to themselves.

“ It was sufficient, however, for Buonaparte
“ that the idea was plausible, and calculated to
“ *flatter* the wishes of the different maritime
“ powers. By his ministers and other agents,
“ at the courts of Petersburg, Stockholm,
“ Copenhagen, and Berlin, he insinuated how
“ encouraging the present posture of Europe

“ was for such a step, and how great the advantages of compelling the English to make peace on reasonable terms.

“ The effecting of this was not then so difficult: Russia, the most important of the northern powers, was governed by the emperor Paul. He had been irritated, by various accidents, against the courts both of Vienna and London, but especially against the latter; and on the irritable and irritated temper of the Emperor, disgusted with Austria, and much more with England, Buonaparte operated with *consummate address* and complete success.

“ The consequence of all this was an embassy from Russia to France, on which occasion *Buonaparte, with admirable policy, took care to flatter the vanity of Paul*, by paying the most extravagant attentions to his representative. The ambassador was received with the most profuse honours: his entry into Paris was announced by the firing of guns; nothing that he asked could be refused; and the good, modest, unassuming Count Kalitcheff, knew not whether he was a man or a god. Buonaparte, however, cared not; *he was a master in that perfection of political skill, which consists in rendering the dominant foibles or virtues of your object*

“ *subservient to your own designs.* Paul could
 “ not be proof against such splendid courtesy :
 “ he was won.

“ Next to Russia, the power of most import-
 “ ance in the formation of a confederation
 “ against England was Prussia : without her
 “ concurrence, the effects of any confederacy
 “ could neither be very important or very last-
 “ ing, but with it every thing was to be feared.
 “ Prussia commands an extensive maritime
 “ coast, and the navigation of all the great
 “ rivers from the Rhine to the Eider on the
 “ north of Germany : Buonaparte, therefore,
 “ spared no exertions to bring this power into
 “ the confederacy, and for this purpose he sent
 “ his brother Louis to Berlin. Nor was it *by*
 “ *secret intrigues* only that *he endeavoured to*
 “ *raise this armed monster against England :*
 “ he avowed this intention, with the reasons on
 “ which it was formed, before the whole world.
 “ In a message to the Legislative Body, which,
 “ like his other messages and measures, was
 “ printed and published, he thus declaims
 “ against Great Britain : ‘ All the commerce
 “ ‘ of Asia and immense colonies are no longer
 “ ‘ sufficient to satisfy the ambition of England ;
 “ ‘ it is necessary that all the seas should be sub-
 “ ‘ jected to its exclusive sovereignty. It arms
 “ ‘ against Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, be-

“ ‘ cause Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, have
 “ ‘ by treaties mutually guaranteed their sove-
 “ ‘ reignty, their independence, and their flags.
 “ ‘ The Princes of the North, unjustly attacked,
 “ ‘ have a right to rely on the assistance of
 “ ‘ France: the French government will, with
 “ ‘ them, avenge an injury common to all na-
 “ ‘ tions.’

“ Such was the language of Buonaparte
 “ upon this occasion, and it was echoed by his
 “ faithful constituted authorities with most
 “ courtly similarity; ‘ The liberty of the seas,
 “ ‘ and the repose of Europe,’ was the chief bur-
 “ den of the song in all their harangues. Nor
 “ was the press silent in the grand business of
 “ arming a confederacy against us: many pub-
 “ lications were issued, whose object was not
 “ only to shew that the overbearing power of
 “ this country at sea ought to be resisted, but
 “ that it might be resisted with success. Ex-
 “ amples were adduced, to shew that maritime
 “ strength, unsupported by territorial, is no-
 “ thing; and it was confidently predicted, that
 “ the fate of Alexandria, Tyre, Rhodes, Venice,
 “ Genoa, Portugal, Spain, &c., would speedily
 “ be the fate of England.

“ Buonaparte signified to England his in-
 “ tention of crushing our maritime supremacy, in
 “ a very courteous manner.—About the middle

“ of January, 1801, some valuable books, magnificently bound, were presented to the Royal Society of London from the National Institute of France: a letter of compliment accompanied this present, signed—‘ Buona-
“ ‘ parte, President of the National Institute,
“ ‘ and First Consul of France:’ and on the letter was a finely executed vignette, representing Liberty sailing on the open ocean in a shell, with the following motto :—

‘ Liberte de mer.’

“ The progress of the Northern Confederacy became every day more marked ; Russia, Sweden, Denmark, and Prussia, entered into it with avidity. The Emperor Paul ordered an embargo to be laid on near 300 British ships in the ports of Petersburg, Riga, Revel, and Cronstadt ; but the crews, with their commanders, were taken out of the vessels, and dispersed into the interior parts of the country, to distances from a hundred to a thousand miles, in bodies of ten or twelve men each, and put into prison ! a flagrant act of injustice, a gross and infamous violation of the avowed intercourse of polished nations ! besides this, all British property on shore was sequestered ; and seals were placed

“ on all warehouses containing English
“ goods.

“ The King of Prussia was now universally
“ regarded as a party in the grand confederation, which was well known among the
“ Northern Powers. Without her accession it
“ would have been incomplete ; for with the
“ good will, or even neutrality of Prussia, England might defy the intrigues of Buonaparte,
“ and brave the utmost rage of Russia, though
“ seconded by so hardy and brave a country as
“ Sweden. The accession of Prussia involving,
“ of necessity, that of Denmark, completed the
“ chain for excluding the English from the
“ continent ; from Petersburg and Stockholm
“ to the Straits of Gibraltar.

“ *But they that do know their God shall be*
“ *strong and do exploits.*” In consequence of
“ these hostile measures exhibited in the
“ North, an order was issued, dated 15th January, 1801, for laying an embargo on the
“ northern ships ; and the day after a note was
“ presented to the Danish and Swedish ambassadors at London : the substance and import
“ of it was, that his Britannic Majesty being
“ informed of the re-establishment of the
“ armed neutrality, and of the naval preparations in the Baltic, had determined immediately to adopt the most effectual measures

“ for repelling the attack he had already experienced, and to oppose the effects of the confederacy armed against him. A fleet, consisting of eighteen ships of the line, four frigates, and a number of bomb and gunboats, amounting in all to fifty-two sail, and having on board several regiments of marines and of riflemen, sailed from Yarmouth on the 12th March, 1801, for the Baltic, under the command of Admiral Sir Hyde Parker. On the 30th of this month the British fleet passed the Sound, and it being resolved to attack the Danes, the Vice-admiral Lord Nelson offered his service to conduct it. On the morning of April the 2d Lord Nelson made the signal to weigh, and to engage the Danish line, consisting of six sail of the line, eleven floating batteries of 24 and 18 pounders, and one bomb-ship, besides schooner gun-vessels. These were supported by the Crown Islands, mounting eighty-eight cannon, and four sail of the line moored in the harbour's mouth. The seventeen sail, being the whole of the Danish line to the southward of the Crown Islands, after a battle of four hours, were sunk, burnt, or taken. The van of the British was led by Captain George Murray of the Edgar, who set *a noble example of intre-*

“ *pidity, which was followed by every captain,*
 “ *officer, and man, in the navy. The loss in*
 “ *such a battle was naturally very heavy.—*
 “ *The total amount of the killed and wounded*
 “ *was stated at 943. Among the killed was*
 “ *the gallant Captain Riou, and Captain Moss*
 “ *of the Monarch. The carnage on board the*
 “ *Danish ships was excessive; it was calcu-*
 “ *lated by the commander-in-chief of the*
 “ *Danes at 1800! As soon as the fire from*
 “ *the Danish line had slackened, and Lord*
 “ *Nelson perceived that the ships and battery*
 “ *of the enemy were in his power, he went*
 “ *into his cabin, and wrote a letter to the*
 “ *Prince Royal, addressed, ‘To the Brothers*
 “ *‘of Englishmen, the Danes,’ expressive of*
 “ *his desire to spare the further effusion of*
 “ *blood. An armistice ensued, which soon*
 “ *led to an amicable convention.*

“ *This was a memorable and most bloody*
 “ *engagement: the Danes fought with incon-*
 “ *ceivable intrepidity. Lord Nelson told the*
 “ *Crown Prince’s aid-de-camp, who waited*
 “ *upon him respecting the proffered flag of*
 “ *truce, that the French fought bravely, but*
 “ *that they could not have stood an hour the*
 “ *fight which the Danes maintained for four.*
 “ *I have been in one hundred and five engage-*
 “ *ments, said he, in the course of my life, but*

“ *that of to-day was the most terrible of all.*”
Thus the confederacy was broken, and the Danes were detached from it by the arms of Britain, whose seamen have always shewn themselves *strong* and valiant in her cause, and whose gallant Admiral Lord Nelson was ever ready to acknowledge the hand of God, who, in mercy to Great Britain, strengthened him *to do exploits*.

“ There were some points not easily agreed upon, which impeded a solid pacification between this country and Denmark ; but these were done away by a fortunate event which happened at this momentous period—the death of the Emperor Paul. The new Emperor Alexander, who was immediately proclaimed, declared for the laws and system of his august grandmother. It was among the first acts of his reign to release all those British seamen who had been thrown into prison by Paul ; peace and good understanding were re-established between the courts of London and Petersburg, and all disputes between Great Britain and the Northern Powers were amicably adjusted*.”

* See Dodsley's Annual Register for the year 1801 ; see also Van Ess's Life of Buonaparte, vol. V.

Ver. 33. “ And they that understand among
 “ the people shall instruct many: yet they
 “ shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by cap-
 “ tivity, and by spoil, [many] days. 34. Now
 “ when they shall fall, they shall be holpen
 “ with a little help; but many shall cleave to
 “ them with flatteries. 35. And some of them
 “ of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to
 “ purge, and to make them white, even to the
 “ time of the end: because it is yet for a time
 “ appointed.” The first words of the passage
 before us, viz, “ they that understand among
 “ the people shall instruct many,” relate to the
 exertions which were made at the period of
 the prophecy at which we are now arrived, by
 Protestants of every denomination, *to instruct*
many in the important truths of Christianity.
 The various societies which were at this time
 instituted, prove the concern that was felt by
 the British nation for the eternal welfare of
 their fellow-creatures. The following Mis-
 sionary Societies, viz., the Baptist Missionary
 Society, the London Missionary Society, and
 the Society for Missions to Africa and the
 East, had successively risen up during the pe-
 riod in which the judgments predicted in the
 foregoing part of the prophecy were desolating
 the earth. The increased attention that was

now paid to the education of the poor, must also be considered as being one of the signs of the times. Sunday schools were very generally established, and afterwards day schools, upon a new system first practised at Madras. The most novel and important feature in the attempts that were now made to evangelize the the world was, however, the translation and dispersion of the Scriptures in foreign languages, and particularly their translation into the various languages of the East. About the year 1801, the Baptist Missionary Society first printed a version of the New Testament in the Bengalee tongue, and have since made great progress in translating the whole of the Scriptures into various languages of the East. But the society which has been most extensively useful has been the British and Foreign Bible Society, which was first established in the year 1804, a date which, it has been often and justly observed, will form an era in the annals of the 19th century. It appears that it has printed or aided to circulate the Scriptures in no less than fifty-five different languages or dialects. Its success, and the encouragement it has met with, have been unexampled; so that we may truly say, "It is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes." To the establishment of

432 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

the British and Foreign Bible Society*, which has given rise (reckoning up to the present time) to above sixty other Bible Societies on the continent, I conceive therefore that the prophecy before us particularly refers; and this idea is confirmed by our finding an evident reference to the object of this Society in the contemporary prophecy of Saint John; where it is said, “ I saw another angel fly in the midst of
“ heaven, having the everlasting Gospel to
“ preach unto them that dwell on the earth,
“ and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue,
“ and people.” Rev. xiv. 6. It has been ob-

* The following is a Statement of each year's receipts of the British and Foreign Bible Society to the 31st of March, 1815 :

	£.	s.	d.
First year.....	5592	10	5
Second year.....	8,827	10	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Third year	6,998	19	7
Fourth year	10,039	12	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fifth year.....	11,289	15	3
Sixth year	23,337	0	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Seventh year	25,998	3	1
Eighth year	43,532	12	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ninth year	76,455	1	0
Tenth year	87,216	6	9
Eleventh year	99,894	15	6

served, " That the particular period in which
" the British and Foreign Bible Society has
" been instituted; bestows on it a particular in-
" terest and importance, and leads the benevo-
" lent heart to regard it with increased hope,
" as an earnest of extensive blessings to the
" human race. At a period when the most
" awful revolutions have taken place in the
" affairs of men. When the judgments of
" God are abroad upon the earth. Amidst the
" desolations of war, he who causes the wrath
" of man to praise him is working in silence
" among the nations, and secretly bringing
" good out of evil. That furious storm, which
" has carried darkness and destruction over
" the civilized world, and has threatened to
" lay in the dust all that wisdom had consecra-
" ted, or age had rendered venerable, will, at
" last, under the direction of an unseen hand,
" pass away and leave a salutary influence be-
" hind."

The following interesting remarks in the
Christian Observer for the year 1811, strikingly
point out, after ten years, the effect of the exer-
tions which now began to be made for im-
proving the moral state of the world, and will
clearly shew the import of the text before us—
" *they that understand among the people shall*
" *instruct many.*"—" On arriving at the close

“ of the tenth year of our labours,” say the
 conductors of this publication, and “ in the
 “ review of the past, to which we are naturally
 “ led on this occasion, the circumstance with
 “ which we are most forcibly struck, is the dif-
 “ ferent aspect which the Christian world ex-
 “ hibits at the present moment, from that
 “ which it bore at the commencement of our
 “ course. Nor is its aspect altered only ; it is
 “ improved beyond the fondest dreams of the
 “ visionary. If we could suppose some calm
 “ calculating, intelligent Christian Observer
 “ to open his eyes, after a ten years’ sleep, on
 “ the passing scene, would he not find himself
 “ almost in a new creation?—*Contemplate the*
 “ *unexampled pains which are taken to instruct*
 “ *the poor ; the glow of holy zeal which is*
 “ *spreading itself around for the distribution*
 “ *of the sacred volume ; and the harmony with*
 “ *which Christians of every name have united*
 “ *to diffuse its blessed light ! See missionaries*
 “ *going forth with a spirit truly apostolic, to*
 “ *carry the glad tidings of salvation to every*
 “ *corner of the earth ; the Scriptures translated*
 “ *into more languages than distinguished the*
 “ *day of Pentecost, and dispersed into more*
 “ *lands than ever the apostles visited ; all sects*
 “ *and parties, who bow the knee in the name of*
 “ *Jesus, rising us by one consent, yet without*

“ *any previous concert, to carry on this labour*
“ *of love!* Behold our kings, and our princes,
“ and the nobles of the land, brightening their
“ honours by patronizing this divine work!—
“ But why should we confine our view to our
“ own island? Look to the east, and to the
“ west; to the north, and to the south.—The
“ whole moral universe is moved.—The Lord
“ himself seems to be preparing his way in the
“ earth. The seeds appear to be sowing, which
“ must sooner or later produce a glorious har-
“ vest. Happy will they be who shall live to
“ witness its maturity! Happy they who may
“ be instrumental in promoting its growth!
“ We would urge all whom our voice can influ-
“ ence, to aspire to a share in this blessedness;
“ to unite their ardent prayers, their holy en-
“ deavours, in carrying on this mighty work;
“ that in their measure they may all contri-
“ bute to the advancement of that glorious
“ period, when ‘ all the kingdoms of the world
“ ‘ shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and
“ ‘ of his Christ.’” Thus amply has the prophecy
been verified, that at this time *those that had*
understanding among the people should instruct
many.

“ *Yet they shall fall by the sword, and by*
“ *flame, by captivity and by spoil, [many] days.*”
The walls of the Spiritual Jerusalem, like those

of Jerusalem of old, were to be rebuilt in "troubulous times." Great Britain indeed, the chief promoter of this good work, has been saved from such trials as are described in the text; but the Protestant nations of Germany, who have united with her in *instructing many*, and have sent out the greater number of missionaries, have been most severely afflicted. The disastrous war between Germany and France, from 1805 to 1807, produced so much devastation and misery, that in the latter end of the year 1805 a society was formed for the relief of the distresses in Germany. The various communications to this society, which contain all nearly the same tale of sorrow, would afford the best comment upon the text, "They shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, [many] days."

"*Now when they fall, they shall be holpen with a little help.*" There appear, from the reports made to this society, to have been two periods of peculiar distress to the Protestant countries of Germany; namely, from the year 1805 to 1807, and the year 1813. The society having closed their benevolent labours in relieving the distresses of the first period, and having transmitted above £24,000 to the continent for that purpose, were again lately called together on account of the distresses produced

by the campaign of the year 1813. The interval between these two periods may be considered as a respite during which the Protestants of Germany might recover in some degree from their first sufferings; and as constituting *the little help with which they were holpen*.

It appears that on this second occasion above £112,000 has been collected by private subscriptions, and transmitted to Germany by the society; and an additional sum of £100,000 has been voted by parliament, to be distributed according to their recommendation. The distresses of this last period appear indeed to have been greater than those of the former. The committee have represented, that “ never has
“ the mass of every kind of misery been so
“ great,” that it is “ inconceivably great,” and that “ the many dreadful conflicts which have
“ taken place in Germany, have produced sufferings almost unexampled in the annals of
“ history—*villages burnt, cities pillaged, whole
“ principalities desolated.*” Saxony, which has been denominated the nursing cradle of the Reformation, has suffered more than any other place. It is stated, that “ in the tremendous
“ days of the 26th and 27th August, 1813, ten
“ villages in the immediate environs of Dresden were burnt; and a far greater number
“ in the latter conflicts, and during the siege

“ in October and November. Many houses
“ were demolished merely for the purpose of
“ fuel, so that in that district alone sixty vil-
“ lages were completely destroyed, and not
“ fewer than one hundred and sixty deprived
“ of nearly all the means of subsistence, being
“ destitute of cattle, implements of agriculture,
“ and seed corn. The inhabitants of the
“ *burned and demolished villages* sought shelter
“ with their helpless families, among their
“ neighbours; but as these also had nothing
“ for themselves, much less to give away (espe-
“ cially after Napoleon had in the last days of
“ September ordered all the cattle to be driven
“ off, and in fact organized a *regular system of*
“ *pillage*), the natural consequence was, that
“ amidst all these horrors and privations a
“ malignant disease spread in all directions
“ from the crowded French hospitals, and the
“ sick soldiers in general, and attacked in par-
“ ticular these unfortunate exiled families.—
“ The epidemic fever often swept away all the
“ adults of a family, as one individual was
“ obliged to attend upon another, and thus
“ the infection became more and more widely
“ diffused. Among the hundreds that died
“ were very few children, who upon the whole
“ remained unaffected by the contagion.—
“ Many of them in consequence lost their

“ parents or protectors.” In the upper circle of Meissen, in an area of about eight (German) square miles, “ there were already at the end “ of January four hundred very young children, “ bereft of father and mother, without guardian “ or provider, destitute of shelter and protec- “ tion, and exposed, amidst the extreme seve- “ rity of a protracted winter, to all the horrors “ of want and hunger. Their number in Fe- “ bruary increased to five hundred, and then “ kept augmenting, as the fatal fevers yet con- “ tinued their ravages in that whole district, “ and daily reduced more children to the state “ of helpless orphans. Strange as this circum- “ stance may appear,” the writer observes, “ it “ is but the natural consequence of the inex- “ pressible miseries and hardships which, for “ four months, were accumulated on a country “ so highly cultivated, and so late a Paradise ; “ where half a million of famished combatants, “ from almost every region of the continent, “ rushed in such a narrow compass upon one “ another, and destroyed all before them.”— Another writer observes, that of 36,000 inhabitants of the district which was the immediate seat of the war, “ 10,000 were afflicted with “ infectious fevers, and 6000 had already” (that is in February, 1814) “ fallen victims to

“ their direful effects.” The accounts from other places are equally distressing: another document states, that “ no imagination is sufficiently lively to conceive the miseries spread every where by the flying French army on their retreat. The nearer they approached the borders of Germany, the more furious their excesses, the more relaxed their discipline. The consequences may be easily imagined. There is no need of a guide to find the road from Leipsic to Frankfort. On both sides of this long road of blood, all lies wildly mixed; broken carriages, clothing of all kinds, fallen horses, and dead soldiers. Most of the houses in the villages and suburbs on this road have not only been entirely plundered, but deprived of all their timber, and reduced to shells. Already a whole month has elapsed since those days of terror, and yet no human being, no domestic animal, no poultry, nay, not even a sparrow, was to be met with; only ravens in abundance, feeding on corpses, were seen. Since then some human beings, with the remainder of the cattle, have returned to their ruined dwellings, but both carrying within them the seeds of the most dreadful maladies. Many places in Fulda have since lost the tenth,

“ may the seventh part of their whole popula-
“ tion, and likewise their remaining cattle,
“ through those maladies; and yet no end
“ is to be seen of this inexpressible misery.
“ Many villages are threatened with entire
“ depopulation.”

An English gentleman, on his return from Germany, communicated to the committee the following details from his personal observation :

“ Between Toplitz and Dresden 500,000 men
“ were encamped for three months; and it is
“ at one post north of Toplitz that the most
“ decisive signs of war are visible. Preissen,
“ Kulm, Arbesan, Nollendorf, and several
“ other villages in the valley in which Van-
“ damme was defeated, are all burnt to the
“ ground. From Nollendorf across the Reisen
“ Geberge to Peterswalda, not a village is
“ standing. Fifteen or twenty hamlets, through
“ which the road passes to Dresden, are fired
“ and gutted. Amongst the ruins of a village
“ perhaps a single chimney is seen smoking;
“ and around it are eight or nine families
“ in a wretched situation. In short, from
“ Toplitz to Dresden, a distance of 70 English
“ miles, once fertile and populous, not a single
“ village remains. An infectious disorder
“ is universally prevalent. The post-master

“ generally warns travellers not to stop ; I saw
 “ many dying, and one man actually died as I
 “ passed.

“ From the frontiers of Saxony to the capi-
 “ tal, the eye is presented with one wide waste
 “ of plain littered with straw, and dotted with
 “ the numerous bodies of horses. The small
 “ towns and villages on every side of Dresden
 “ are level with the ground. The fields are
 “ totally uncultivated.

“ The town of Dresden has suffered little or
 “ no damage ; but it is crowded beyond its
 “ resources, by the multitudes that have
 “ taken refuge in it from the destruction of
 “ the villages. This is the cause of much
 “ misery. Towards Meissen, two posts, there
 “ are again tremendous evidences of war.—
 “ This is also the case with the portion of
 “ the country towards Freyberg, which was
 “ the scene of the battle fought previously to
 “ the great events of Leipsic. Only two flocks
 “ of sheep did I see, until approaching Leipsic,
 “ and not two herds of cattle. The plains
 “ round Leipsic had the appearance of straw
 “ yards, strewed with the carcasses of man and
 “ beast. The suburbs of Leipsic have greatly
 “ suffered.” These details, to which many
 distressing particulars might be added, will be

sufficient to shew the sufferings of those countries that have been made the seat of war, and how they *have fallen by captivity, by flame, and by spoil.*

“ *But many shall cleave to them with flatteries.*” The reason why the Protestants of Germany are involved in these common troubles is here made known; it was because the churches of the continent had lost their zeal and warmth, and the simplicity of their faith, and were only Christians in name; *cleaving to the true Church by flatteries*, or vain words and professions. This is confessed by a pious native of Germany, who, when distributing amongst his countrymen the relief transmitted from England, thus exhorted them—“ Our sins have merited these chastisements; how often and how widely have we wandered from the Lord! Should we not suffer ourselves to be brought by these severe judgments to recollection, and to turn again unto him?”

“ *And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end; because it is yet for a time appointed.*” Not only those who had forsaken the faith, but some of those of understanding also, it is said,

should fall in these troubles. And no doubt many pious persons on the continent have suffered. We find particularly that the settlements of the Moravians in Saxony, who have been distinguished for their active missionary labours, did not escape the universal scourge. The prophecy informs us, that these chastisements, upon the Protestant countries are not intended, like those upon the Papal nations, to work their destruction, but are designed to “*purify them and to make them white.*” So it is observed by another German writer, “That Saxony, which was once in so flourishing a state, but has ‘forsaken the fountain of living waters, and hewn out broken cisterns which ‘can hold no water,’ was first *to feel the mighty hand of God; and experience his paternal chastisement; that it might feel the necessity of returning to the pure word of God.*” He adds, “We perceive our need, not merely of temporal, but also of spiritual help.” At a public meeting held in August, 1814, for the establishment of a Bible Society in the city of Berlin, “the first clergyman of the city, in an eloquent speech, emphatically pointing at the Bible, represented in colours most striking and awful, the floods of infidelity and wickedness, the ravages of war, and

“ *the accumulated miseries, under which the Prus-*
 “ *sians and the other nations of Germany had*
 “ *suffered for so many years; and pointed out, as*
 “ *the source of all these iniquities and sorrows,*
 “ *the disrespect, yea, contempt, which had been*
 “ *poured upon the religious and moral principles*
 “ *contained in that best of all books—the Bible.*”

When such public confessions are made, and when the first leisure thoughts of Germany seem to be directed to the establishing Bible Societies, with the view to disperse more universally the word of God*, may we not hope that the chastisements have effected the purposes for which they were sent; and that “ *the time appointed*” for the end of their sufferings is arrived.

Ver. 36. “ And the king shall do according
 “ to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and
 “ magnify himself above every God, and shall

* See recent communications to the British and Foreign Bible Society, announcing the interesting and important intelligence of the formation of the following Bible Societies on the Continent, viz., *A National Bible Society for the Netherlands*, established on the 29th of June, 1814; *The Hanoverian Bible Society*, established on the 25th of July; *The Prussian Bible Society*, established on the 2d; *The Saxon Bible Society*, on the 10th; and *The Polish Bible Society*, on the 26th of August.—1st edit. To the foregoing may now be added the names of above forty others, recently established.

“ speak marvellous things against the God of
 “ Gods, and shall prosper till the indignation
 “ be accomplished : for that that is determined
 “ shall be done. 37. Neither shall he regard
 “ the God of his fathers, nor the desire of wo-
 “ men, nor regard any God : for he shall
 “ magnify himself above all. 38. But in his
 “ estate (or in his stead) shall he honour the
 “ God of forces ; and a god whom his fathers
 “ knew not shall he honour with gold, and
 “ silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant
 “ things. 39. Thus shall he do in the most
 “ strong holds with a strange god, whom he
 “ shall acknowledge and increase with glory :
 “ and he shall cause them to rule over many,
 “ and shall divide the land for gain.”

The sufferings of the Protestant countries of Germany having been described, the prophecy now returns more immediately to the personal history of the Infidel King. It will be recollected, that the last events mentioned were the re-establishment of the Roman-catholic religion in France, and the overthrow of the confederacy of the Northern powers, which was formed by the intrigues of Buonaparte against the naval supremacy of Great Britain in the year 1801. The verses now before us refer to the events which next succeeded in the order of time, de-

scribing the establishment of the immense military power of Bonaparte, and treating of a long period of uninterrupted prosperity.

“The King shall do according to his will.”

Even pending the negotiations of the peace of Amiens, and during the period of three or four months which intervened between the signing the preliminaries and the conclusion of the definitive treaty, on the 27th March, 1802, Buonaparte “made such enormous accessions of power as caused the greatest uneasiness throughout the British empire, and excited the most universal indignation.” Very great tardiness was shewn on the part of France in bringing the negotiations to a conclusion, and he took the opportunity afforded by this delay to establish himself in the sovereignty of Italy, under the title of President of the Italian Republic, and openly “seized for himself, and in his own name, all the north of Italy, and extended his empire to the very frontiers of the Neapolitan territory.” And no sooner was the definitive treaty signed with England, than he produced other treaties very advantageous to France, which he had privately concluded. By a treaty with Turkey the French were put on an equality with the most favoured nation, and consequently the best of her allies were not even in a commercial view, to be more favoured

than those who, without provocation, had invaded and plundered her dominions. By a treaty with the court of Lisbon, all Portuguese Guiana was ceded as far as the mouth of the river Amazons, which cession would have opened for the French a way into the heart of South America. By a treaty with Spain, Louisiana, with Parma and the island of Elba, were ceded to France. “The publication of these clandestine treaties exhibited in a strong point of view the *bad faith and boundless ambition* of the French government. But the ambition of Buonaparte,” it is observed, “was by no means satisfied with his Italian honours; he now openly assumed *the most arbitrary and absolute power in France*, which country, as well as Italy, he from thenceforward seemed to consider as his patrimonial property. By whatever title he intended to govern France, he resolved to govern it *absolutely*, and settle the government in his family as a new dynasty. He not only took upon himself the state of a sovereign, but exercised *a power more arbitrary than ever had been exercised by the former kings of France.*” Some individuals, who were accused of having spoken with too much freedom of his government in their private parties, were banished from Paris, amongst whom were se-

veral ladies of respectability, and Laharpe, who had the highest name and reputation as an author, and who was seventy years of age. Mr. Duval, the author of a dramatic piece which had given offence to Buonaparte, was likewise ordered to leave Paris, and it was expected that he would have been banished to Guiana; but he was at length, at the earnest entreaties of Mademoiselle Beauharnois (the daughter of Madame Buonaparte), permitted to return. “ Nothing, however, could more strongly shew
“ how completely the personal liberty of every
“ individual in France was unprotected by any
“ law than those instances. If such sentences
“ of banishment were completely arbitrary,
“ the pardon which followed was equally so.
“ The caprice of the moment, and the effect of
“ female solicitation, at length restored those
“ authors to their families; but the circum-
“ stance proved that *not a vestige of liberty* re-
“ mained in France. Not only individuals,
“ but the public bodies which he had himself
“ constituted, felt the effects of his displeasure
“ when they ventured to offend him. It was
“ not to be expected that General Buonaparte,
“ who with the bayonets of his grenadiers de-
“ stroyed the former constitution of France,
“ and turned out the representatives chosen by
“ the nation, would suffer any serious opposi-

“ tion from persons named by himself. Not-
“ withstanding the improbability of success
“ however, they had the courage to reject a
“ civil code presented by him, which was full
“ of absurdity and tyrannical enactments. The
“ rejection of this code violently enraged him ;
“ he testified his displeasure by observations
“ which were not even bounded by the com-
“ mon rules of decorum, and soon found means
“ to shew those bodies that they must for the
“ future *be more subordinate to his will* than
“ ever the Parliament of Paris, or the Provin-
“ cial Parliamen’s, were to the venerable pris-
“ tine sovereigns of France. Usurped and des-
“ potic power could never stand the test of cool
“ and free discussion in times of peace. Buon-
“ aparte was well aware of this, and therefore
“ in every constitution he ever made for any
“ country, he laid it down as the first principle,
“ *that the legislative or mock representative*
“ *body must never originate any thing, must*
“ *never discuss any point but what the govern-*
“ *ment should send to them for discussion, or*
“ *rather for their acceptance.* By the constitu-
“ tion which had been made for the regulation
“ of the French government, one-fifth of those
“ bodies were to go out annually by ballot ;
“ and whoever ventured to displease him might
“ be certain of being displaced at the end of

“ the year, and of never again resuming his
 “ seat. This was a stretch of *absolute dominion*,
 “ more absolute, perhaps, than had ever been
 “ assumed by any Executive power over its
 “ Senate. After those expulsions, the First
 “ Consul had an easy and complying Senate,
 “ who were ready to accept his civil code, or
 “ any other code he should present them, his
 “ Legion of Honour, or any project that came
 “ into his head, however absurd or unjust.
 “ *The public bodies dared no longer express a*
 “ *sentiment of freedom*, and if any individual
 “ ventured either to converse or write with
 “ freedom, the examples of Laharpe and of
 “ Duval held out sufficient terrors. An im-
 “ prudent word might send the father of a
 “ family to Guiana, and it could not reasonably
 “ be expected that Mademoiselle Beauharnois
 “ would always undertake to solicit pardon for
 “ those who offended the First Consul*.”

Thus did Buonaparte do according to his will
 when he commenced his career as Sovereign of
 France. In 1804 the *Moniteur*, the official
 organ of government, used the following lan-
 guage: “ The First Consul, *superior to all*
 “ *events*, is more enabled than ever to fulfil the
 “ decree of the Fates.” The “ *Senatus Con-*

* Dodsley's Annual Register for 1802, p. 89.

“ sultum,” passed in the same year, by which the title of Emperor was conferred on him, raised him still further above all control, none either at home or abroad being able to dispute his power.

He shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished, for that that is determined shall be done. The short campaign of the year 1805 against Austria, in the course of which Buonaparte took possession of Vienna, terminated in the defeat of the combined Austrian and Russian armies, in the battle of Austerlitz ; and led to the peace of Presburg, which was signed on the 26th December, 1805. “ This campaign,” it is observed, “ increased the power, dominion, “ and renown, of France to a degree not easily “ to be appreciated.”—“ No talents, power, or “ combination, in opposition to Buonaparte, “ seemed calculated to check his progress ; “ but, on the contrary, served in their effect “ to swell his career with fresh victories, and “ to add to his strength by increasing his conquests.” His successes led the French people “ to identify their glory and renown with his “ own, and by his wisdom in council, greatness “ of enterprise, and promptness of action, “ he” (apparently) “ put it almost out of the “ course of things that he should ever meet “ with a reverse of fortune.—By the events of

“ this campaign, the Emperor Francis saw
“ himself despoiled of by far the greater part
“ of his hereditary estates, and forced to ac-
“ cept the conditions of peace imposed upon
“ him by his opponent, and dictated on the
“ frontiers of Hungary, his last remaining
“ possession.”

The years 1806 and 1807 brought an immense accession to the power of Buonaparte. The Confederation of the Rhine, that masterpiece as it is called of Buonaparte's policy, was formed in July, 1806, under his protection. On the 14th October, 1806, the armies of Prussia were completely defeated in the battle of Jena, and on the 27th of that month Buonaparte took possession of Berlin. The battle of Friedland was fought on the 14th of June, 1807, when the Russians, who had come to the assistance of the Prussians, were defeated with immense loss ; and this led to the peace of Tilsit, which was concluded between Russia, Prussia, and France, on the 7th July. By this treaty “ the King of
“ Prussia, together with an immense territory,
“ lost nearly the half of his yearly revenues,
“ and five millions of his subjects ;” and it is observed, that “ all the continent of Europe
“ now lay prostrate before Buonaparte.”

At the latter end of the year 1807, he occupied Portugal with his troops ; and afterwards,

in 1808, treacherously seized the person of Ferdinand the Seventh, and took possession of the kingdom of Spain: for “ *Buonaparte’s power had by this time risen to so enormous a pitch,*”
 “ that he did not think it necessary to manage
 “ or keep any terms with the opinions and pre-
 “ judices of men or nations”—and he declared,
 “ that if the Spanish nation would not wil-
 “ lingly receive Joseph for their king, he would
 “ put the crown on his own head, treat them as
 “ a conquered province, and find another king-
 “ dom for his brother; for *God had given him*
 “ *both inclination and power to surmount all*
 “ *obstacles.*” If the noble, and in some degree
 successful, resistance which began to be made
 to his arms by the Spaniards, at the latter end
 of the year 1808, may be considered as inti-
 mating that his prosperous career was now
 drawing towards its conclusion; its immediate
 effect was to increase the sufferings of the Spa-
 nish nation, and to lead the French to inflict
 upon them unheard-of cruelties, and thus to ac-
 complish the indignation which was now poured
 out upon Spain and Portugal in common with
 all the other Papal nations; and to bring to a
 speedy conclusion, *that which it was determined*
in the counsels of God should be done.

It is observed by the historians of these times,
 that “ a heavy load of national guilt lay upon

“ the Peninsula ; and that those persons, who,
“ with well-founded faith, could see and un-
“ derstand that the moral government of the
“ world is not less perfect nor less certain in its
“ course, than that material order which sci-
“ ence has demonstrated, perceived in this
“ dreadful visitation the work of righteous re-
“ tribution. The bloody conquests of the Por-
“ tuguese in India were yet unexpiated ; the
“ Spaniards had to atone for extirpated nations
“ in Cuba, and Hayti, and their other islands.
“ Vengeance had not been exacted for the enor-
“ mities perpetrated in the Netherlands ; nor
“ for that accursed tribunal which, during
“ more than two centuries, triumphed both in
“ Spain and Portugal, to the ineffaceable and
“ eternal infamy of the Romish Church*.” We
may indeed look upon these enormities as the
peculiar cause of that indignation, which
seemed to fall more heavily upon them than
upon any other of the Roman-catholic coun-
tries.

Early in 1809 the war broke out again with
Austria ; and Buonaparte, without relinquish-
ing Spain, was successful, aided by the troops
of the Confederation of the Rhine, in the bat-
tles of Taun, Abensburg, and Eckmuhl ; and on

* Edinburgh Annual Register for 1809, p. 536.

the 13th May, after the campaign had been opened only one month, he entered as a conqueror into Vienna. The advantages subsequently gained by the Austrians in the sanguinary battle of Aspern, were not sufficient to turn the tide of victory in their favour. They suffered a severe defeat in the battle of Wagram, and the war was terminated by a treaty, concluded at Vienna on the 14th of October, 1809; by which Austria made very large and important cessions of territory, but made one cession of far more importance to Buonaparte, and tending more than any other to consolidate and strengthen his power; for it was afterwards discovered to have been a secret condition of this peace, that the royal family of Austria should be united with the dynasty of Buonaparte, and that the Archduchess Maria Louisa should share with the adventurer Buonaparte, that throne which had been unoccupied by any one of royal birth since it became vacant by the murder of her aunt, Marie Antoinette. In the course of this year Buonaparte had also annexed Tuscany and the States of Rome to the French empire, and added to his other titles that of Mediator of Switzerland.

Early in the year 1810, his marriage with the Archduchess took place; a divorce having been previously pronounced between himself

and the Empress Josephine. In this year he also took military possession of Holland, and Louis finding that his brother would grant no terms to his oppressed and unfortunate subjects, released them from their oath of allegiance to himself, and Holland was definitively united to France. Part of the Tyrol also, which had before been given to the King of Bavaria, was this year annexed to Buonaparte's kingdom of Italy; and, lastly, the Hanse towns, as Hamburgh, Bremen, and Lubeck, were joined to the empire of France. Hanover also was this year given to Jerome, King of Westphalia.

In 1811 it is observed, "that there existed
" not in appearance, through the wide range
" of Napoleon's sway, the least opposition to
" the measures of his government. The humiliated Court of Vienna was principally occupied," through this year, "in the restoration of its impaired finances. The rest of
" Germany was in part annexed to France, and
" the remainder in close league with it, or
" under slavish dependence upon the French
" Emperor." In this year "the general
" usurper laid his grasp also upon the Duchy
" of Oldenburgh," and the King of Prussia
" was compelled, after much reluctant delay,
" to join the Confederacy of the Rhine, and to
" place a considerable body of his troops un-

“ der the orders of the French general who
 “ commanded on the southern coast of the
 “ Baltic.”

In this year, on the other hand, Portugal was completely delivered from the yoke of the French, by the valour of the allied army under Lord Wellington ; but the usurper Joseph was in possession of the capital of Spain ; and the greater part of that country was in the power of his troops.

In the beginning of 1812, Buonaparte prepared to force the Court of Petersburg to maintain more strictly that system which he had established, by which the merchandise of Great Britain was to be entirely excluded from all the ports of the Continent. In the month of January, as a preliminary measure, 20,000 French troops were sent to occupy Swedish Pomerania, and in the middle of June Napoleon joined on the other side of the Vistula the immense force that he had there assembled for the invasion of Russia. The Emperor of Austria had lately entered into a treaty with Buonaparte, by which he bound himself to assist him with 24,000 infantry, and 60 pieces of cannon. The King of Prussia also had been forced to form a treaty of alliance with him. “ The confederate Princes of Germany had sent their tributary powers ; a reluctant remnant of about

“ 10,000 Spaniards and Portuguese had been
“ pressed into the service, and not less than
“ 400,000 men were ranged under the Despot’s
“ standard*.” We behold him at this time
arrived at the height of glory, from which he
was to be so suddenly cast down ; and I here
therefore close the consideration of that part of
the text, “ *he shall prosper, till the indignation*
“ *be accomplished.*”

The last words of the text under consideration, which we have not yet particularly adverted to, are the following: “ *He shall cause*
“ *them to rule over many, and he shall divide*
“ *the land for gain.*” It was the policy of Buonaparte, during the whole course of his successful career, to reward his generals and officers, and those who sided with him, by giving them a share of the spoil which they had assisted him to seize. The act of his dividing the land, therefore, kept pace with his successes ; and was consequently not completed till his power had reached to its utmost limits. We read in the annals of 1812, that when preparing for the invasion of Russia, “ he was in
“ the meantime not unmindful of that plan of
“ attaching his generals and soldiers by re-
“ wards, at the cost of the vanquished, which

* Narrative of the Campaign in Russia, during the year 1812, by Sir Robert Ker Porter, p. 5.

“ has been discernible in all his wars. By a
 “ decree issued from the Thuilleries on the
 “ 21st January, 1812, he declares the annexa-
 “ tion to his extraordinary domain, of effects in
 “ the province of Valencia, to the amount of a
 “ principal of 200,000,000 livres ; ordering at
 “ the same time that the Prince of Neufchatel
 “ shall transmit to the intendant-general of
 “ that domain a statement of the generals,
 “ officers, and soldiers, of his armies in Spain,
 “ who had distinguished themselves, in order
 “ that they may receive proofs of his imperial
 “ munificence*.” This was the last act of the
 kind that he had an opportunity of executing.
 The prophecy must be considered, however, as
 referring not to this act alone, but to his uni-
 versal practice. He began to divide the land
 for gain after his successful campaign against
 Austria in the year 1805 ; for we read, that
 “ the first day of the new year, 1806, was dis-
 “ tinguished in Germany by an event not a
 “ little singular ; viz., the coronation of the
 “ Electors of Wirtemberg and Bavaria as
 “ kings ; which dignity was further ampli-
 “ fied by a considerable increase of territory,
 “ at the expense of the unfortunate house of
 “ Austria† !” Again, on the 15th of March

* Dodsley’s Annual Register, 1812, p. 165.

† Van Ess’s Life of Buonaparte, Vol. VI. p. 264.

of the same year, Murat was invested with the duchies of Berg and Cleves; "an act which gave serious offence and alarm to the court of Berlin." Berg had belonged to the King of Bavaria, as Count Palatine of the Rhine; and been ceded to France in exchange for territories belonging to Prussia; and Cleves, with other provinces, had been given up by Prussia for Hanover. "Various spéculations had been formed with regard to the destination of these provinces, when they fell into the hands of France; but the general sentiment in Germany was that of surprise and indignation, when *they were given to Murat, a foreigner, a soldier of fortune, and the brother-in-law of Buonaparte.*" In the same year *Holland* was made a kingdom, and *Louis Buonaparte, a younger brother of Napoleon, was placed upon the throne.* In this year Saxony also was erected into a kingdom. We again read, that "on the 31st March, 1806, Buonaparte submitted to the Senate a variety of decrees for its approbation; by one of them he conferred the kingdom of Naples on his brother Joseph; by another he gave to Berthier the principality of Neufchatel; and by another he created a number of duchies, with suitable revenues, in Italy, to be distributed among the civil and military officers who had

“ distinguished themselves in his service, and
 “ to be held by them in property, transmissible
 “ by inheritance to their direct descendants in
 “ the male line. The last of these decrees,”
 it is observed, “ presents the curious spectacle
 “ of the revival of benefices by Buonaparte,
 “ within less than twenty years after the extinc-
 “ tion of the feudal institutions, derived from
 “ the victories and destructive conquests of
 “ Charlemagne. *The erection of the duchy of*
 “ *Benevento into a fief of the French empire, in*
 “ *favour of Talleyrand, with the title of Prince*
 “ *and Duke of Benevento ; and the grant of the*
 “ *duchy of Ponte Corvo to Marshal Bernadotte;*
 “ by a similar tenor, followed some months
 “ after the preceding establishments*.” “ From
 “ his imperial camp at Finkensteen, on the
 “ other side of the Vistula, Buonaparte wrote
 “ on the 28th May, 1807, to the Conservative
 “ Senate, that *he had instituted Duchies, as re-*
 “ *wards for eminent services* done him, whether
 “ military or civil, and that in pursuance of
 “ this system of encouragement, *he had created,*
 “ by letters patent, *the Marshal Le Febvre, He-*
 “ *reditary Duke of Dantzic*, not only in con-
 “ sideration of his late achievement” (the
 capture of Dantzic), “ but because on and

* Dodsley's Annual Register for 1806, p. 218.

“ ever since the first day of his reign, Le
 “ Febvre had rendered him the most signal
 “ service. *It was his business, he said, to esta-*
 “ *blish the fortunes of such families as devoted*
 “ *themselves to his service, and constantly sacri-*
 “ *ficed their own particular interest to his*.*”

We read also, in the annals for the year 1810,
 that one of the beneficial acts which Bernadotte
 proposed to perform in favour of Sweden, on
 his election as Crown Prince, was the “ repur-
 “ chasing *the estates of Pomerania, which Buon-*
 “ *aparte had distributed among his officers.*”
 In the annals of the same year, Buonaparte is
 referred to as an adventurer, who began at the
 commencement of his successful career, “ like
 “ a knight of Romance, *to parcel out duchies*
 “ *and kingdoms among his kinsmen and fol-*
 “ *lowers†.*”

The following list contains some of the
 names of Buonaparte's relations, marshals, and
 generals, whom he appointed to kingdoms and
 dukedoms; together with the names of the
 places from which they derived their titles:—

Joseph Buonaparte	King of Spain
Louis Buonaparte	King of Holland
Jerome Buonaparte	King of Westphalia

* Dodsley's Annual Register for 1807, p. 169.

† Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 311, 346.

464 *Combined View of the Prophecies.*

Joachim Murat	King of Naples
—— Beauharnois.....	Vice-Roi of Italy
Marshal Bernadotte	Prince of Ponte Corvo
Marshal Davoust	Prince of Eckmuhl
Marshal Berthier	Prince of Neufchatel
Marshal Massena	Prince of Essling
Marshal Soult	Duke of Dalmatia
Marshal Kellerman	Duke of Valmy
Marshal Marmont	Duke of Ragusa
Marshal Ney.....	Duke of Elchingen
Marshal Moncey	Duke of Cornegliano
Marshal Mortier	Duke of Treviso
Marshal Macdonald	Duke of Tarente
Marshal Oudinot	Duke of Reggio
Marshal Champagne.....	Duke of Cadore
Marshal Junot	Duke of Abrantes
Marshal Victor.....	Duke of Belluno
Marshal Angereau	Duke of Castiglione *
Marshal Le Febvre	Duke of Dantzig
Caulincourt	Duke of Vincenza
Maret.....	Duke of Bassano
Bessieres	Duke of Istria
Savary	Duke of Rovigo
Duroc	Duke of Friuli
Cambaceres	Duke of Parma
Le Brun	Duke of Placenza
Talleyrand de Perigord	Prince of Benevento
Fouche	Duke of Otranto

* The grants of land and other revenues in the kingdom of Naples, made by Buonaparte to French officers, were lately annulled by the following decree of Joachim Murat, King of Naples, dated 20th October, 1814.

“ Whereas one of the effects of the treaties concluded by
 “ his Majesty the Emperor of Austria with his Majesty the

It will be evident from all these instances, that it was a noted circumstance in the policy and conduct of Buonaparte, that “ *he divided the land for gain.*”

Having now examined the text before us, as it relates to the actions of Buonaparte, and explained the words, “ the king shall do according to his will, and shall prosper till the indig-
nation be accomplished, and shall divide the
land for gain,” I now proceed to consider that part of the text which describes more particularly *his character and pretensions.*

Ver. 36. “ *He shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every God, and shall speak*

“ King of France, was to annul all the dotations, assignments
“ of revenues, and other obligations constituted by the French
“ Government, on the different States of the Princes who
“ formed the European Confederation.

“ We have decreed and do decree the following :

“ Art. 1. All the dotations, assignments of revenues, and
“ other obligations of every kind constituted upon our king-
“ dom by the French Government, are declared ineffectual,
“ the property of every sort which formed a part of them are
“ united to the domain of the state.

“ Art. 3. The property designated in the above articles
“ shall be administered by our Council of the Majorates,
“ until it please us to dispose of it either in favour of the
“ Titulars, who have possessed them until the present time,
“ and who have all particular claims to our esteem and affec-
“ tion, or in favour of any other whom we shall think proper
“ to name.”—1st edit.

“ *marvellous things against the God of Gods.*
 “ *37. Neither shall he regard the God of his*
 “ *fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard*
 “ *any God; for he shall magnify himself above*
 “ *all. 38. But in his stead shall he honour the*
 “ *God of forces; and a God whom his fathers*
 “ *knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver,*
 “ *and precious stones, and pleasant things.*
 “ *39. Thus shall he do in the most strong holds*
 “ *with a strange god, whom he shall acknow-*
 “ *ledge and increase with glory: and he shall*
 “ *cause them to rule over many, and shall divide*
 “ *the land for gain.”*

These words contain a striking description of the character of the Infidel King, and of the establishment of his immense military power. *He regards not the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women*; he does not believe in the God of Christians, nor in the Saviour who has atoned for the sins of the world; and who, as he was “the desire of all nations,” so he was particularly the desire of those Jewish women, who, believing in that promise, that “the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent’s head,” entertained the hope that he might descend from them. Neither does he regard any God, for he magnifies himself above all. *His Fate and his Destiny* are the only objects of his confidence: and he claims, therefore, as it were in his own

right, the uncontrolled dominion of the world. He worships no other god than Mars, the god of war, an emblem of his own military power; to whose service he dedicated, in the year 1801, the Chapel of the Invalides, which had been solemnly consecrated to Christianity, "and placed
" the image of that Pagan deity on the spot
" which had been occupied by the Christian
" symbol of redemption *." The sacrifices with which he honours the God of Forces, are represented as being the spoils of conquered countries,—the "*gold, the silver, the precious stones,*
"*and the pleasant things,*"—which he has carried away by force and rapine. His places of worship are "*strong holds,*" or fortifications, the meet habitations of the God of War. The high priests and ministers of his religion are his marshals and generals. The reward by which he *acknowledges* their service and ministry is, that he *increases them with glory*, and causes them to rule over many, dividing the conquered countries amongst them for their gain. He is himself "the Genius of Power," as he has allowed himself to be called by his servile flatterers, and he worships the god of war. We have the following declaration, in his speech to the Council of Ancients, on the 10th of November,

* Dodsley's Annual Register for 1801, p. 267.

1799; “ *I have always followed the God of War, and Fortune and the God of War are with me.*”

The Infidel Power is said likewise to speak marvellous things against the God of Gods; for as God is the author of all things, as in him we live, and move, and have our being; every assumption of glory, by man, is an offence against his Creator. How low was Nebuchadnezzar cast down, and how much was he debased, for that boast of his, “ *Is not this great Babylon that I have built?*” And when through pride David directed that his people should be numbered, what a severe penalty was exacted, and how were those numbers in which he prided himself lessened! Numerous have been the examples which have shewn, that those who walk in pride, God is able to abase; and that self-exaltation in man is the highest offence against Omnipotence. But in order to judge how far the text, “ *He shall speak marvellous things against the God of Gods,*” is applicable to the Infidel Power, let us consider the character of the two great enemies of the Church who have preceded him, and the expressions which are used respecting them. The Papacy professed to derive its power from God: and the title the Pope assumed was that of “ *the Vicar of Jesus Christ.*” But in as much as he pretended to

infallibility, and assumed other attributes which belong to God alone, he is described in prophetic language as “ blaspheming the name of God,” and as “ speaking great words against the Most High.” The Mahometans acknowledge the power of God, proclaiming, that “ there is but one God, and that Mahomet is *his prophet.*” But as Mahomet assumed a power that was not given to him, language similar to that of the text is used respecting him, and he is said “ to *magnify himself* in his heart.”

The pretensions of the third enemy of the Church, the Infidel Power, we shall find, have risen to an equality with, if they have not far exceeded, those of the Papal and Mahometan Powers: and it is a curious circumstance, that the historians of these times have noticed a similarity in the language and pretensions of Buonaparte and Mahomet. Napoleon in 1809 promulgated this as his maxim of government, that “ *as there is but one God, so there should be in a state but one judicial power.*” By which reference to “ the unity of that God, whose name he never utters but to outrage, the Tyrant,” it is observed, “ wished to inculcate the idea, that *there is but one God, and Napoleon is his representative.* This is the

“ creed,” the writer proceeds to say, “ which
 “ this *political Mahommed* hints at himself; and
 “ suffers his Infidel bishops and his flatterers to
 “ proclaim *.”

Like Herod, he permitted himself to be addressed in terms that amounted to blasphemy. In 1809 some deputies from the new Italian departments were admitted to an audience, and used the following language: “ The destinies
 “ of the whole world, they told him, were con-
 “ fided by the Almighty to his impenetrable
 “ views, to the supreme power of his genius,
 “ to the miraculous exploits of his arms. Hence
 “ a new order of things, already written in the
 “ books of the Eternal, was prepared for their
 “ country. In the necessity in which he was
 “ to overthrow, to destroy, to disperse, all ene-
 “ mies, as the wind dissipates the dust, he was
 “ not an exterminating angel; but he was the
 “ being that extends his thoughts, and measures
 “ the face of the earth, to re-establish happi-
 “ ness upon a better and surer basis. He was
 “ destined before all ages to be the man of
 “ God’s right hand; the sovereign master of all
 “ things.” “ Language of more idolatrous ado-
 “ ration,” it is observed, “ was never listened

“ to by the frantic Caligula. It was not, how-
“ ever, too gross for the Tyrant to whom it was
“ addressed; and he applauded it in his reply*.”
Thus he spake, and permitted others to speak,
“ *marvellous things against the God of Gods.*”
The scene also which the Jews had enacted at
“ Paris under his command,” it is observed,
“ appeared to have more meaning than was
“ avowed. It was little likely that he should
“ have convened their deputies to answer ques-
“ tions which he needed not have asked, or to
“ lend their sanction to a conscription which
“ required no other sanction than that of his
“ own merciless tyranny. And though doubt-
“ less the deputies indulged gratuitously in im-
“ pious adulations, yet it was apparent, that in
“ some of their blasphemies they echoed the
“ known pretensions of the adventurer whom
“ they addressed. In their hall of meeting,
“ they placed the imperial eagle over the ark
“ of the covenant, and blended the cyphers of
“ Napoleon and Josephine with the unutterable
“ name of God.—This was French flattery in
“ Jewish costume. In their addresses they ap-
“ plied to him the prophecies of Isaiah and
“ Daniel, calling him ‘ the Lord’s anointed
“ ‘Cyrus!’ ‘ The living image of the Divinity!’

* Edinburgh Annual Register for 1808, p. 417.

“ ‘ The only mortal after God’s own heart, to
 “ ‘ whom he had intrusted the fate of nations,
 “ ‘ because he alone could govern them with
 “ ‘ wisdom.’ These expressions,” it is observed,
 “ resembled but too much the profane lan-
 “ guage of his Infidel Bishops, and of his own
 “ proclamations.—Nothing was too impious for
 “ this man—nothing too frantic.” After this
 it only remained, as the crowning act of his im-
 piety and blasphemy, that he should assume
 the name of God himself ; and this we find he
 did, for it is publicly known, that he desired to
 be addressed by the title, *VOTRE PROVIDENCE* :
 and that he was offended with those who dis-
 dained or feared to give him that appellation.
 Of this fact I can only speak from common re-
 port ; but I know, from unquestionable autho-
 rity, that this title was applied to him by one of
 his ministers, who, at a public dinner, gave the
 health of his Emperor in the following terms :
 “ Napoleon, L’ami des hommes, et *LA PROVI-*
 “ *DENCE DU MONDE.*” Thus did the Infidel
 Power, claiming to himself the attributes, and
 even the name of the Divinity, *speak marvellous*
things against the God of Gods. But this career
 of wickedness was at length to have an end ; and
 the vengeance of the insulted majesty of God,
 which it had formerly been declared, must, on
 account of his impiety, “ sooner or later over-

“ take him*,” was now about to overwhelm him in destruction. Exposed to the severities of a Russian winter, his army, which only six months before was the largest and the best equipped of any we read of in modern times, was so completely destroyed, that out of more than 400,000 men that entered Russia, not more than 25,000 (exclusive of the Austrians) repassed the Niemen; out of 100,000 horses scarcely one survived; and of 1,200 pieces of cannon, it is said, that, not a single gun was again carried by the fugitives across the barrier stream†.

Buonaparte, however, on his return to France, having used every exertion to collect a fresh army, obliged the allied Russians and Prussians, at the commencement of the campaign of the year 1813, to fall back beyond Dresden, which place he occupied. An armistice was then agreed upon, and negotiations were carried on, under the mediation of Austria. These however, did not lead to a peace; and on the 11th of August, the Court of Vienna declared in favour of the Allies, and issued a manifesto against France. In the month of October, Buonaparte, apprehending that his

* Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 529.

† See Narrative of the Campaign in Russia during the year 1812, by Sir Robert Ker Porter.

communications with France might be cut off, fell back to the neighbourhood of Leipsic, where on the 16th the allied army made a general attack upon him, which was repeated on the 18th, when he lost 40,000 men and 65 pieces of artillery, and was obliged to make a precipitate retreat into France. In the month of December, 1813, the Allies crossed the Rhine, and France itself was the scene of the campaign of the year 1814. In this campaign various actions were fought, and Buonaparte having incautiously left the road to Paris open to the Allies, they immediately marched towards it; and having gained a victory under its walls, entered it by capitulation on the 31st of March. On the next day the Senate met, and, decreeing that Napoleon had ceased to reign, formed a provisional government. In consequence of these transactions, Napoleon, by a deed dated at Fontainebleau, the 6th of April, 1814, abdicated the thrones of France and Italy; and it having been settled that he should reside in the island of Elba, formerly belonging to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, he left Fontainebleau on the 20th of April for that place, under an escort, and in the charge of commissioners appointed by the several allied Powers.

Thus Buonaparte having prospered *till the*

indignation was accomplished, and having performed the task assigned to him as a scourge to the Papal nations, experienced in the end the most dreadful reverses. We may observe here that in the Revelation of St. John, as well as in this prophecy of Daniel, Buonaparte is described as being an instrument raised up for the destruction of the Papacy; for in the seventeenth chapter, which treats of the Beast of the Bottomless Pit, or the Infidel power, and of the period of the 30 years, during which the kingdoms of the divided Western Roman empire are under the influence of infidel principles, we thus read: “The ten horns
“ which thou sawest upon the Beast, these *shall*
“ *hate the (Papal) Whore, and shall make her*
“ *desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh,*
“ *and burn her with fire, for God hath put in*
“ *their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree and*
“ *give their kingdom unto the Beast (of Infidelity)* until the words of God shall be fulfilled;” or till the predicted judgments upon the Papacy should be accomplished.

The interpretation of the prophecy has now been brought down to the present day. An awful pause has succeeded to the late dreadful judgments—a year scarcely has elapsed, and we hear on all sides that the hosts are again mustering to the battle.

In order to illustrate the remainder of the prophecy which relates to future events, it will be necessary to compare it with other prophecies that belong to the same period. The seven Vials of the Revelation of Saint John have already been spoken of as referring to a period of 30 years, commencing in the year 1792. The first and second Vials, as it has been before stated, describe events which took place during the three first years of this period ; and Buonaparte not being himself instrumental in producing these events, they are not mentioned in the last prophecy of Daniel, which relates personally to him. The third Vial is said to be poured out “ upon the Rivers and Fountains “ of Water ;” that is, upon the *Papal States*, and Buonaparte commanding the French army during the invasion of the Papal States, and of Italy in the year 1796, the events of this Vial will be found described in Dan. xi. verses 22—27. The fourth Vial is poured out upon “ the Sun.” In this symbolical description, the Sun represents Buonaparte as the chief potentate of the Roman empire, and the events referred to by this Vial, will be found also described in Daniel xi. verses 31—39. The fifth Vial, the period of which I apprehend is yet future, is poured out upon “ the Seat of the “ Beast” of the bottomless pit, or of the Infi-

del Power, and predicts therefore, a dreadful judgment upon the kingdom of *France*. The same period is, I conceive, also referred to in verse 40, of this prophecy, which proceeds as follows ;

Ver. 40. “ And at the time of the end shall
 “ the King of the South push at him : and the
 “ King of the North shall come against him
 “ like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with
 “ horsemen, and with many ships ; and he
 “ shall enter into the countries, and shall over-
 “ flow, and pass over.”

The prophecy appears in this place to speak of a new period in the life of Buonaparte, introducing it in these words, “ *And at the time of the end* shall the King of the South push at him.” This description agrees with the circumstances in which he is now placed, for he appears to be entering on a new period of his life ; he himself is said to have declared on his late landing in France, *that he had given the first volume of his life, and that he was now about to give the second.*

As I conceive that this prophecy relates to future events *, we must leave it to time to fur-

* In my former edition I interpreted this verse as describing the attack made upon Buonaparte by the Emperors of Russia and Austria, in the years 1812, 1813, and 1814 ; noticing

nish the complete elucidation of it, and I must content myself with giving merely the literal interpretation of the text. It describes a joint attack by land upon Buonaparte, by the King of the South, or the Emperor of Austria, of whom mention has been so largely made in the former part of the prophecy, and by the King of the North, or the Emperor of Russia; in which he will employ, or at least be aided by a great naval force. The term "*entering into the countries,*" must imply some extraordinary movement of the Infidel power, and he is described in the prophecy as passing over, apparently accompanied by his army, to some other country, probably therefore (as being eventually the seat of his government) to Italy.

Ver. 41. "He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. 42. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries; and the land of Egypt shall not escape. 43. But he shall have power over the trea-

at the same time the difficulty that the mention of the "*many ships*" presented to this interpretation, there having been no naval co-operation of sufficient magnitude to answer to the terms of the text.

“sures of gold and of silver, and over all the
“precious things of Egypt: and the Lybians
“and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. 44.
“But tidings out of the East and out of the
“North shall trouble him: therefore he shall
“go forth with great fury to destroy; and ut-
“terly to make away many. 45. And he shall
“plant the tabernacles of his palace between
“the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet
“he shall come to his end, and none shall help
“him.”

It would perhaps be hazardous to say positively, that the events here described are entirely unconnected with the period of the sixth Vial, which relates to the overthrow of the Ottoman empire. I am, however, disposed to believe that they belong only to the period of the seventh and last Vial, considering that during the period of the sixth, Buonaparte will rather be gradually regaining his influence than actively engaged, as heretofore, in scenes of extensive warfare; and that the convulsions predicted on *the first pouring out* of the seventh Vial will bring to him a great accession of power. These verses speak in the plainest terms of a second expedition of Buonaparte's into Egypt, in which it appears that he will not as formerly proceed by sea but by land; for he

enters into Judea, or “ the glorious land” before he invades Egypt. This being his course, it is possible that it will be at this time that “ the “ Great Head” of the Eagle of Esdras “ on the “ right side,” will, according to his symbolical description, devour the Great Head “ on the “ left*.” Adverting to his former convocations of the Sanhedrim, it is also far from impossible that this expedition of Buonaparte will be connected with a partial restoration of the Jews; for what is more probable than that he may declare himself their Messiah†, and lead

* II. Esdras, xi. 35.

† The probability of this has already been speculated upon. The writer of the Edinburgh Annual Register for the year 1808 observes, that when the Jews, who were assembled in the Sanhedrim at Paris, “ reminded Buonaparte that, ‘ he had “ ‘ overcome, as conqueror, the ancient land of the eternal “ ‘ pyramids, the scene of their ancestor’s captivity; that he “ ‘ had appeared on the banks of the once sacred Jordan, and “ ‘ fought in the valley of Sechem, in the plains of Palestine,’ “ such expressions appeared to indicate a project for resettling “ them in the Holy Land, as part of his plans respecting “ Egypt. Nay, as he had successively imitated Hannibal, “ and Alexander, and Charlemagne, just as the chance of “ circumstances reminded him of each, was it improbable,” observes the author of that work, “ that he might breathe in “ incense till he fancied himself divine; that adulation, and “ success, and vanity, utterly unchecked as they were, having “ destroyed all moral feeling and all conscience, should affect

some of them back to the Holy Land. His progress in Egypt appears to be nearly the same as during his former expedition, and he approaches the confines of Lybia and Ethiopia. *But news from the East and from the North will trouble him*, for he will, I apprehend, hear of the march of the ten tribes, or of "the Kings of the East," towards the Holy Land, for whom the way has been prepared by the removal of the Ottoman empire; and he will hear of the advance of the Russians also "from the North," under whose protection the Ten Tribes will probably be restored. The Emperor Alexander would doubtless favour such a project; the dominions of Russia stretch to the East, and will afford her probably a ready intercourse with the countries where the ten tribes are now situated, and her facilities for bringing them back to Judea will be further increased, should she possess herself of any or of the greater part of the Ottoman empire. It is very evident, that at this time Russia will once more act a prominent part, and that the hosts of the North will overrun all the Continent, and be-

"his intellect next; and that; from being the Cyrus of the
"Lord, he would take the hint which his own clergy had given
"him, and proclaim himself the temporal Messiah?"

come an exceeding bitter plague to the Papal nations. Saint John says (Rev. xvi. 21),
 “ There fell upon men a great Hail out of
 “ heaven, every stone about the weight of a
 “ talent, and men blasphemed God because
 “ of the plague of the hail, for the plague
 “ thereof was exceeding great*.” Buonaparte,
 on hearing the intelligence from the North
 and from the East, will return into the Holy
 Land, and will then plant his tabernacles in
 the valley of Megiddo, between the glorious
 holy mountains; there the treading of the wine-
 press will take place, and there he and all his
 army will perish under the manifest vengeance
 of God.

Chap. xii. ver. 1. . “ And at that time shall
 “ Michael stand up, the great Prince which
 “ standeth for the children of thy people; and
 “ there shall be a time of trouble, such as never
 “ was since there was a nation, even to that
 “ same time: and at that time thy people shall
 “ be delivered, every one that shall be found
 “ written in the book.” At this time there
 will be some glorious manifestation of the per-
 son of Christ. The Jews will be converted,
 and every one will be delivered “ that shall be

* See article HAIL, Symbolical Dictionary, p. 92.

“ found written in the book,” every one of the elect children of God who shall be found having faith in Christ. And hence the importance of that previous warning and exhortation, which is, through the Apostle Saint John, addressed by Christ to his Church, at the period when the Sixth Angel pours out his Vial:—“ Behold
“ I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth,
“ and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked
“ and they see his shame.” Blessed is he that has renounced his own righteousness, and is clothed with the perfect righteousness of Christ*, with which he may appear with boldness in the presence of God. Blessed is he who, when “the Spirit and the bride say
“ come,” and when Christ saith, “ Surely I
“ come quickly,” is able to reply, “ Even so ;
“ come, Lord Jesus.”

Finis

*Remarks on the interpretations given by former
Commentators of the last prophecy of Daniel,
or of “ that which is noted in the Scripture
“ of Truth.”*

In adverting to the interpretations which have been given of this Prophecy by preceding

* Rev. iii. 18. Isa. liv. 17.

commentators, I have to observe, that no doubt has ever been entertained as to the propriety of applying the first part of it to the histories of the Kings of Syria and Egypt. Porphyry, as it appears from Bishop Newton's work, though he denied the authenticity of the prophecy, did not deny the apparent accuracy of its accomplishment, but rather laboured to confirm it, and drew this inference, that it was so minute and circumstantial, that it was evidently written after the events had taken place. Bishop Newton also observes that it is more accurate than any history now extant, for no one historian has related so many circumstances relative to the Kings of Syria and Egypt, and in such exact order of time as the Prophet hath foretold them ; so that he found it necessary to have recourse to several authors, and to collect something from one, and something from another, for the better explaining and illustrating the great variety of particulars contained in this prophecy. Porphyry however objects, as it appears from Bishop Newton, that the prophecy is true, and exact only to the time of Antiochus Epiphanes, and therefore concludes, that it was a forgery written about that time. Bishop Newton and all other commentators also admit, that the interpretation of the latter part of the prophecy is more difficult than that

of the former part; the reason of which I apprehend may be readily given, namely, that all of it subsequent to that part which relates to Antiochus the Great was yet unaccomplished, and therefore it was in vain that they attempted to carry on the interpretation of the prophecy much beyond that period.

As it so happened, however, that Seleucus Philopator, the son and successor of Antiochus the Great, was “a Raiser of Taxes,” in as much as Syria being, during his time, a tributary kingdom, he had to raise yearly a thousand talents of gold to pay to the Romans, the 19th verse might appear to admit of a very fair application to him; and as Antiochus Epiphanes also, the brother and successor of Seleucus Philopator, was an *enemy to the Jews*, who were esteemed to be the “*Holy Covenant*” of old, and as *the invasion of Egypt* was a remarkable event in his time as well as in that of Buonaparte, the first part of the prophecy, relative to the “Vile Person” or the Infidel King, in these particulars, as well as in some others, may be said to agree with the history of Antiochus Epiphanes; consequently though commentators, as I apprehend, leave the right track at verse 20, it is not till they arrive at verse 31 that the inconsistency of this interpretation appears. For the remainder of the prophecy we have various interpretations.

Bishop Newton observes, that to verse 31 all commentators are agreed, none differing much from the other “ but that hereafter they pursue “ so many different paths, that it is not always “ easy to know whom it is best and safest to “ follow.” He observes for himself, that in one part he may agree with this commentator, in another part with that, “ and in some instances perhaps differ from all.” Neither Bishop Newton or Mr. Faber attempt to give an interpretation of this prophecy, *as relating to the lives of individuals*, beyond the 30th verse. The latter verses 31—40, Mr. Faber interprets as follows: Ver. 31. “ Arms shall stand on his “ part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of “ strength, and place the abomination that “ maketh desolate,” he refers to the rise of the Roman power, and to the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus. Ver. 32 and 33, “ Such as do “ wickedly against the Covenant shall he corrupt,” &c., and “ they that understand among “ the people shall instruct many: yet they shall “ fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, “ and by spoil,” he refers to the Pagan persecutions of the primitive Christians. Ver. 34, which speaks of the “ little help” with which they were holpen, he refers to the rest enjoyed by the Church in the days of Constantine the Great; and so far Mr. Faber agrees in his inter-

pretation with Bishop Newton. Ver. 35. "Some of them of understanding shall fall," &c., Mr. Faber applies to the Papal persecutions, and especially to those of the sixteenth century. Ver. 36—39, relative to the King who magnified himself above every God, he applies to Infidel *France*; and the dividing the land for gain, mentioned at the latter end of ver. 39, he refers to the sale of the lands belonging to the crown, the church, and the nobility, at the commencement of the French Revolution. Ver. 40, which says, that the King of the North shall push at him, and the King of the South shall come against him, he refers to events yet future, and which he expects will take place about the year 1866, when the 1260 years he conceives will terminate.

As Mr. Faber applies verse 39 to events prior to the year 1796, and the next verse 40 to events which are expected to take place about 50 years hence, there is no part of the prophecy, according to his interpretation, that applies particularly to the period between the years 1796 and 1814; but it is during this period that I consider the whole of the prophecy, from verse 21 to verse 39, to have received its accomplishment, consequently there can be little that is common to both our interpretations. Here, I would observe, in reference to

the interpretations which have hitherto been given of the latter part of this prophecy, that the diversity of opinion that exists amongst commentators respecting it, amounts almost to a proof, that the true interpretation has never yet been discovered; for, as Bishop Newton observes, prophetic revelation is “like the shining light that *shineth more and more* unto the “perfect day.” If the interpretation of the *first part* of this prophecy, therefore, relating to *early times*, has been clear, unequivocal, and convincing, we may rest assured that the interpretation of that part of it which relates to *later events*, when it shall be discovered, will be found to be equally satisfactory; this amounts to a strong presumptive evidence against the interpretations hitherto given; but the most direct way of refuting them appears to be by taking a general objection to the latitude of the principles upon which they are formed. This case appears to me to be similar to that between Mr. Faber and Mr. Cuninghame, relative to their interpretations of the vision of the Ram and the He-goat, which have been noticed in the foregoing pages. Mr. Faber has given one interpretation, applying the Little Horn to the Mahometan Power; Mr. Cuninghame has given another, in which he considers it as an emblem of the Roman Power in the

East; and it does not appear to me that Mr. Cuninghame's theory can be so directly refuted, as by bringing forward, as a valid objection to it, the laxity of the principles upon which his interpretation is given, in as much as that, in the first part of this prophecy, he has considered the Temple to be the *literal* Temple that was cast down by the Romans; but in the latter part he has considered the Temple to be the *symbolical* Temple, or the Spiritual Church of Christ, that was to be cleansed at the end of the period of the vision. Now the allowing the Temple to be understood either in a literal or a symbolical sense, affords a facility of interpretation, and is a licence which, I think, must be fatal to any system of which it forms a part; and I consequently consider Mr. Cuninghame's opinion, relative to the little horn of the He-goat, to be untenable. As I observed when considering that prophecy*, so I have now to remark, that consistency of interpretation is a principal criterion of truth, and in a long and continued prophecy it is a sure and unfailing one; if therefore, all the former part of the last prophecy of Daniel is proved to relate to the lives of various individuals, we ought, when the prophecy evidently continues to be

* See preceding pages, 287, 288.

given in the same terms, and to bear the same character, to expect to find the latter part also fulfilled in the life of an *individual**.

I have myself endeavoured to shew, that from verse 21 to 40 has been already clearly accomplished in the life of Napoleon Buonaparte; and if the difficulty, I may say impossibility, of applying this strictly chronological prophecy (consisting of no less than 25 verses, and containing a variety of events and facts of a very marked character) to any individual but the one who is the real subject of it be considered (in illustration of which I may refer to the acknowledged failure of the older Commentators in their attempts to apply the whole of it to Antiochus Epiphanes), I have reason to hope that the interpretation here given will appear satisfactory; but should it not, we must, if we

* Mr. Faber expressly states, that he speaks “ of the actions of Buonaparte *only* as being a portion of the actions of the *infidel kingdom*. Neither *he* nor any other *individual*,” Mr. Faber observes, “ is intended by *this infidel king or kingdom* but *France alone*, from the commencement of the revolution to the termination of the 1260 years,” *i. e.* (agreeably to Mr. Faber’s theory) to the year 1866.—See Faber’s *Dissert.* vol. i. 3d edit. p. 402; 4th and 5th p. 430.

But we may ask if such a passage as the following, “ *He shall stumble and fall, and not be found,*” is translated by Mr. Faber in the former part of the prophecy as relating to an individual (Antiochus the Great), on what principle can

would preserve *consistency* of interpretation, wait till some other *individual* shall arise, in whom all the particulars of this prophecy shall be more accurately fulfilled.

such another passage as this, occurring in the latter part of the same prophecy, “*He* shall come to his end, and none shall help him,” be translated, not as relating to an *individual* (as Buonaparte), but to the infidel *kingdom* of France?

THE END.

** * The Prophetic Chart may be had separately of the Publishers of this Work, price 4s. 6d. mounted on Roll and Ledge.*

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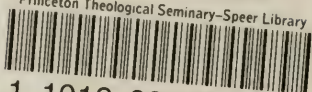
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